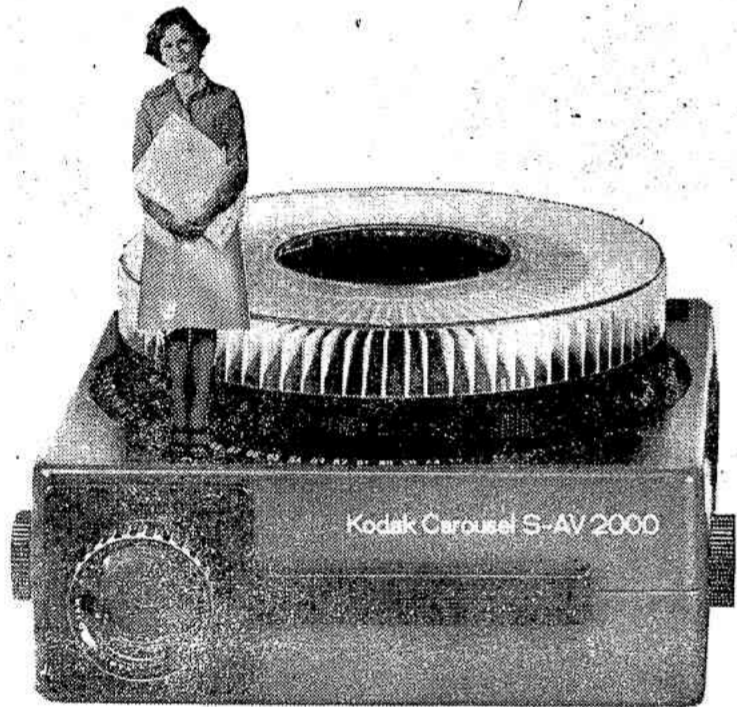


Vol. 30 No. 6
WORONI
AUGUST 1, 1978



THE DOPE
DROUGHT:
IS THERE
NO HOPE?



EDUCATION COMMITTEE LIFTOUT



MORE ON MEDIBANK: THE ABORTION AFTERMATH

LETTERS

garran

Garran is dead — this is quite simply the truth and hails the end of a magnificent era in the history of A.N.U.

For at one time Garran was the academic and social centre of the campus.

It was also the seat of student politics when the S.A. Presidents resided free of charge in a room especially set aside.

Over recent years since around the time of conversion Garran's reputation has faded enormously.

The conversion of Garran into a 'self-cook' hall did not effect this but more through the likes of the warden (Dr Gore) who has no concern for the social as well as the sporting and person well-being of the students.

This year Dr Gore has taken a very hard line on parties. For example many parties have been diffused at midnight and now gatherings in a student's own personal room are banned.

Students responsible for breaches of the Warden's rules have been raked over the coals.

Just recently, for example, three non-residents including myself have been made 'persona non grata' of Garran Hall.

This means that we are totally forbidden to set foot on the premises.

Never before in the entire history of Garran Hall have students been given such unnecessarily severe discipline.

The three of us feel that a great deal of freedom has been taken away as a lot of our friends reside in Garran Hall.

All this symbolises the way Dr Gore has successfully squandered a lot of social interaction in the Hall.

Kym Sullivan.

woroni

Dear Kozmik People

I was rilly blown out by your last fabish. Me and my lady rilly dug the far-out pictures and the spacey articles and our kid Jimi who is only 4 and smokes a deal a day got right into the cartoons. How about some more features on Jimi Hendrix and the Grateful Dead? None of this Ramones and Elvis Costello shit — that's really bad kar karma. Anyway were lookin forward to your next ish out at our dome in Araluen.

Keep Kool,
Kosmo V.Nesbitt,
Cloudwoman and
Jimi.

Dear Editor,

I have a serious complaint regarding your newspaper. Sitting as I was, in the downstairs lavatory last Thursday, I noticed to my intense horror that the quality of your newsprint was exceeded by that of the toilet paper. WHY? when sitting in the roulette wheel of life, pondering just which paper to buy, are you motivated by economy, or the quality of absorption of the paper used, or by neo-Nietzschean food technology. Sir, certainly home-made pies have their place, and frozen yoghurt is nice, but why and where is it necessary for you to print such rubbish. Four beers later, still in the lavatory trying to pick the print off my backside, I ask you again, where have you put the dog? I spent three hours searching for it in the pages of your paper. Message — stick my foot, I should have thought a napalm cigarette would have been better.

Yours sincerely,
The ALSF

anusa

Dear Editors,

Professor H.W. Arndt was given 1/8th of the last issue of the ANU Reporter for a long destructive rave about the ANU Students Association (ANUSA).

He tried to claim that the ANU Union is functional as distinct from the ANUSA which he tries to claim is political. This is just plain dishonest as the only political groups that have received money from the ANUSA have been just two of about 30 clubs & societies, and the total amount for this year amounts to only \$177.39. This is significant when it is compared to a total membership of 4831. This expenditure in fact, is only 3.67 cents per person per year. One would have to be a real zealot indeed to interfere in S.A. affairs on the basis of 3.67 cents per year.

Arndt also claims that the functional roles (if?) of the ANUSA could be transferred to the Union. This means that everything would be transferred to the Union except for 3.67 cents per student per year. Needless to say the Union would have a fit.

Arndt further claims that the ANUSA function is "to act as a forum and instrument of student politics, for the discussion, formulation and public expression of views and policies on issues of concern to students as a group."

This is unsubstantiated rot. The objects of the ANUSA are clearly spelt out in paragraph 3 of the Constitution.

I do not think that students can really object to the ANUSA spending money to help political groups if the amount is less than 25 cents per person per year.

Chris Warren.



The ANU Campus Amateur Dramatic Society
PRESENTS:
THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND
by Tom Stoppard

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TICKETS: ARTS CENTRE (194787)
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\$2.00 SLING SHOP, GUS'S RESTAURANT
\$1 (STUDENTS) C.C.A.E. STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
CAMBERRA TECH. UNION OFFICE

FIRST FIVE PEOPLE AT DOOR ANY NIGHT OF THE PLAY ADMITTED FREE!

NOTE TO ALL CLUBS & SOCIETIES —

Could all Clubs and Societies send an updated list of office bearers to the Chairperson. As yet many of last year's clubs have not been heard of and have been impossible to contact as no addresses have been given. We are at present trying to renew the list of Clubs and Societies' contacts and this would greatly assist us.

The Committee has recently adopted a policy of not refunding clubs for high quality printing unless we have ratified the expenditure beforehand. This is to keep down unnecessary costs, for the Student Association provides free Gestetner printing for any student clubs.

We provide up to \$30 to cover expenses of refreshments at A.G.M.'s and up to \$10 for refreshments at social meetings or meetings with speakers. We also cover costs of stationery and postage met by clubs.

Under a recent amendment to the regulations, each club must send a representative to at least two meetings of the Students' Association per term (where she or he would sign the attendance record held by the secretary). Clubs who do not comply with this are assumed dead and are disaffiliated. If a club ceases to exist could you please inform the chairperson (once again this simply makes life easier and saves our time pursuing you).

Peter Ride
for Clubs & Societies
Committee.

we ARE WORONI

August 3rd, 1978.
Volume 30 No. 6.

Sally Brockwell
David Browne
Steve Doyle
Suzie McKenzie
Virginia Murray
Beth Pattinson
Meg Rodgers.

Address: P.O. Box 4,
Canberra, 2600
Phone: 49 2444

Advertising is worth a 20% commission to the student bringing it in.

Publisher: Peter Cardwell, for the ANU Students' Association.
Printer: Queanbeyan Age.

BLACKMAIL CORNER

Well, hello sportsfans, and welcome to the first blackmail corner for 1978. This week's lucky victim is none other than a well-known editor of Woroni. Interesting things were happening at the Queanbeyan abbatoir when our photographic whizz-kid snapped this little gem We had better not discuss exactly what was going on, as it was rather indelicate. See you next issue.

Eric Varmin.



SHITHOUSE SECURITY ?

Evidently all is not well on the security front in the Union. Rumour has it that Management has instructed our elite corps of S & M enthusiasts that they must patrol the toilets, to stop us ruffians scribbling our illiterate, obscene comments on the lovely walls. Shame! Shame! We must try and remember that they are *our* walls.

When interviewed by our intrepid reporter our grey-haired schleichers fuhrer stated "that there is absolutely no truth in the story that he will be stationed in the toilets handing out individual sheets of toilet-paper!"

THE ANU DISCOVERY

Professor Ted Ringwood thinks he has devised a method to render nuclear waste safe. All you have to do is lock the solid waste in synthetic rock, put the rock in a metal box, place this in a bucketfull of dust and, then, drop it down a three kilometre hole. Sounds simple, doesn't it. Safe for all the kiddies, no mutants in our family. The Fraser Government must be thrilled to pieces, there's no reason to stop producing yellowcake, we've got a surefire disposal method, all praise for Australian inventiveness.

Unfortunately you are still going to have large messy reactors hanging around, you are still going to have small-minded people with paranoid ideas sifting off any spare plutonium and making pretty little twenty megaton bombs. And if we're very lucky, the situation will get a good deal worse. With safe disposal, you can do whatever you like with a few pounds of uranium.

Fabulous new giveaway!!!! A Mini Reactor free with every microwave oven bought today!!!! Free installation. Guaranteed mutations in your family for at least three generations. Be the first one in your street to die of self induced leukemia.

Sounds fun, doesn't it?

MATURE-AGE STUDENTS

The Board of the School of General Studies recently approved a new admissions scheme for mature-age students. Applicants would be required to write two essays, one a book review and the other explaining why they wished to undertake tertiary studies. The catch is that these applicants would also have to obtain a minimum mark on the A.S.A.T. (Australian Scholastic Aptitude Test), supposedly not based on any special knowledge. Unfortunately, the mathematical aptitude part of the test is based on the assumption that one has done new maths.

To remedy the situation some student members proposed that the Admissions Committee take the A.S.A.T. to help them determine the minimum mark for Mature-age applicants. The motion passed, 18 for, 17 against.

WORONI 3

NEWS

2XX OK



Canberra was the venue for the first public hearing to be conducted by the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, on the 19th, 20th and 21st July. This hearing was to determine who would be the holder of the first public radio station licence in the A.C.T. Two groups contested the licence: the present holders of the 2XX licence, Campus Community Broadcasting Association, and the Monaro Community Broadcasting Society.

2XX at present holds an experimental licence under the Wireless and Telegraphy Act. This Act was originally drawn up for the provision of two way radio services rather than broadcasting stations, so the station was licenced for a specific purpose - to be an "educational station broadcasting to the staff and students of the A.N.U." The new licence is issued under a different Act - the Broadcasting and Television Act - which has been revised to provide for the provision of Public Broadcasting services.

2XX began as a campus station, Radio ANU. Radio ANU began transmission in early 1973, from the campus to the various halls and colleges, as well as the Union, via a series of landlines and a low power transmitter in each locality on campus. Being low power, the transmissions could only be heard on campus. An increasingly large number of students living off campus, and the need for a closer rapport between the community and the university, led to the first moves being made toward Canberra wide broadcasting in late 1974. At a public meeting in 1975, co-hosted by the ACT Council for Cultural Societies and Radio ANU, the Community Radio Committee was formed.

The new legislation creates three categories of public radio stations - "Category E: will be issued to educational bodies intending to provide programmes of continuing and adult education but including material designed to enrich the cultural life of the audience."

Category S: will be issued to groups intending to provide programmes serving a particular interest or group of interests. e.g. sport, music, religion."

Category C: will be issued to community groups intending to provide programmes serving a particular community e.g. Canberra or Bathurst."

A C Category Licence has been offered in the A.C.T.

In August 1975 Moss Cass the then Minister for the Media, offered licences to 12 tertiary institutions and special interest groups around Australia, of which the ANU was one. Radio ANU asked the ANU several times to take up the licence but in mid 1976 the University decided that it would not take up the offer. Consequently, the Radio ANU Staff Club applied for the licence. The club was given the licence as an interim measure pending licence hand-over to an incorporated body - later known as Campus Community Broadcasting Association. The Board of Management of CCBA consists of 15 people representing

the ANU, the ANU Students' Association, the CCAE, the CCAESA, ANU Research SA, School of Music, ACT Council of Social Services, ACT Council of Cultural Societies, the Ethnic Broadcasting Association, and six workers from the radio station.

Monaro Community Broadcasting Association began as a group to set up a stereo FM station in Queanbeyan. No FM licence has been offered as yet in the region so the society applied for the AM licence that was offered. This put it in direct competition with CCBA for the licence. At this stage severe division appeared within the society. Their Chairperson, Barry Scott who had recently resigned from the leadership of the ACT Country Party accused other members of the society that were affiliated with the Liberal Party of waging a deliberate war against him, and resigned from the society (Canberra Times, 15.6.78) the rift continued when on 17 June a meeting of directors of the society voted 5-4 against a motion to withdraw the society's application for the licence. The tribunal received two letters during the first week of July, one from Mr Davies, who chaired the meeting, seeking to withdraw the application, and another from Mr Brinkman reaffirming the society's wish to proceed with the application. The tribunal decided that the application would stand. According to Mr Davies, the aims of the society were never to operate on the AM band (Canberra Times 10.7.78)

Monaro's approach to public broadcasting could be described as a 'professional' approach. The station it proposed was to have studios located in Fyshwick, with a full time staff of nine, including a station manager, receptionist, librarian, A grade journalist, sales manager and so on. The studios were to be equipped for stereo reproduction, for easy change over to FM when this possibility arose. Their application came under heavy fire from the tribunal over funding. They hoped to raise over 250,000 dollars in sponsorship fees in the first year of operation, an amount that is around 15 per cent of total advertising revenue in the A.C.T. If they could raise this amount - and the tribunal raised doubts over this - then they could seriously affect the viability of commercial broadcasters in the ACT, which the tribunal is bound to protect.

The accent of the station was planned to be "easy listening".

"A simple mix of community access radio with a thread of quality "middle of the road" music connecting the talks segments providing a pleasant sound to attract listeners from a wide cross section of the community . . . in general all talks will be confined to segments of up to five minutes" (page 2.2, Monaro's submission to the tribunal)

Monaro, in various press releases, claimed that 2XX had come under fire for broadcasting offensive material. To avoid this Monaro's proposed programming avoided any form of controversial material -

users of the station being required to observe 'accepted' standards of good taste and decency.

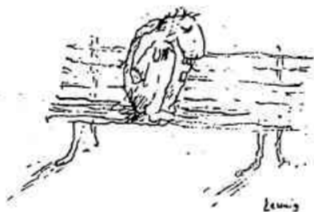
CCBA's submission was largely based on 2XX's performance to date. The Board would continue its representative structure - something Monaro's submission lacked. CCBA would assume more flexibility programming under its 'community' licence having to no longer justify its programmes as 'educational'.

CCBA was criticised by Mrs O'Hanlon of Ainslie, who described some of its programmes as 'anti-social and regressive'. She presented a very detailed list of offensive material broadcast by 2XX, from references to "pederasty" to "anti authoritarian manifestos" to 'smutty poems'.

CCBA also requested that if the tribunal granted it the licence it would like an increase in transmitter power to improve coverage to some areas of Canberra and Queanbeyan. CCBA emphasised its policy to avoid programmes of a sexist and racist nature.

On the third day of the hearing Monaro withdrew the application for a licence, leaving the tribunal with a choice to either grant 2XX the licence, or chose the unlikely option of not granting any licence at all. Overall the tribunal was fair in their questioning and procedure, and Bruce Gyngell was a very capable chairperson.

It will be mid August before the final decision is known but it looks as if 2XX will continue to broadcast



GRADUATES

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As a Research Officer Grade 1 with the TREASURY you will participate in preparing advice for the Treasurer and senior advisers on general economic matters and specific policy proposals.

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Graduates or higher degrees with an interest in economics, econometrics, statistics, mathematics and law are needed.

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For details and application form write to Mr Doug Hinton, Staff Development & Training, The Treasury, Canberra, ACT 2600. (Phone (062) 63 3670).

**THE TREASURY
CANBERRA**

AUGUST HAPPENINGS

union activities

Sat. August 5th

The Fabulous Moose Malone. in the Bar.
Members free. Guests \$2.00

Tues. August 8th

Big Wheel and the Hubcaps in the Bar.
Members free. Guests \$2.00

Wed. 9th

Steve Crofts in Charlies Bar. Free.

Thurs. 10th

The Jazz Spot. Featuring the Provincial Jazz
Band. Members free. Guests \$1.00



Moose Malone

Fri. 11th

Brilliant! Hilarious! The Whittle Family Show.
"If you like the Norman Gunston-Monty Python
brand of humour you'll fall in love with the
Whittles as I did."



See elsewhere for the Bush Week Program

Tues. 22nd Aug. By popular demand (and I'm not
kidding!)
The Phil Manning Band

Wed. 23rd

John Summers in Charlies Bar. Free.
Lunchtime Concert featuring
Margaret Roadknight.

Thurs. 24 Aug

The Jazz Spot Featuring Jazz Interlude and
guest artist. Members free. Guests \$1.00

Fri. 25 Aug.

Eddie's Tuckshop in the Bar. Members free guests
guests \$2.00

coming attractions...

The Bushwhackers
Quasar
Scandal
Dunedan

Sounds from Earth
The John Ewbank Band
Savanna Silver Band.



Who Dumped PAMS into Burley Griffin?

The Part Time and Mature Students Association (PAMS) has been trying to compile a mailing list which would enable interested people to be notified of coming events. Unfortunately, the boxes which were placed around the union building for this purpose have disappeared — probably to share the fate of the telephones which are now lying peacefully at the bottom of Lake Burley Griffin. Consequently they have to start all over again. The one place that seems to be safe from the hands of the phantom lifters is the library so another box has been placed there. If you are interested in being on PAMS mailing list would you again please put a slip of paper with your name and address on it into that box.

PAMS had a general meeting on Thursday (27th) night but very few people turned up — probably due to lack of mailing list. This was rather unfortunate because the PAMS people have been very busy and would have liked some feedback from other members. Because of the lack of numbers, the meeting adjourned to the bar with its wine and cheese, fed the hungry boards joined them in listening to the jazz and had a thoroughly good time.

The next social gathering of PAMS will be Friday 25 August in the Union Board Room, starting about 4 pm and finishing when the wine runs out.

PAMS hold a regular last-Friday-of-the-month wine and cheese social gathering where people drift in when they can and stay for as long or as short a time as they can. It's a good opportunity to meet people in the same situation as yourself.

The University Admission Board is contemplating changing the admission requirements to make it easier for mature students to enter the ANU.

Whilst this is a step in the right direction by acknowledging that it is not only school leavers who wish to enter university, it will also make the problems of the mature students worse unless they are made more aware of the exact requirements of their courses. PAMS is planning an alternative handbook for 1979 O-Week. This will be written by students who have experienced discrepancies in work load, expectations and prerequisites as set out in the official Handbook. Hopefully this will give mature students more of an idea of what is expected of them in the land of academia.

At the moment PAMS is undertaking a study into the 'legitimacy' of the part time and mature student. The University Academics must be made aware of the fact that it is not only school leavers and public servants with study leave who want and are undertaking tertiary education. Some provision and adjustment must be made for these students without detrimentally affecting other students. (more flexible timetables, taped and repeat lectures would be start)

PAMS is also very interested in child care facilities, the effects of the semester versus term system, cutbacks in funding for tertiary education, government interference in the university's autonomy, as well as many other issues which specifically affect the student who has not come straight from school into university. They have people working on these issues but need to hear the views of other concerned people. If you are interested in PAMS do go along to their meetings, put your name on the mailing list, or just go along for a glass of wine and a nibble of cheese on Friday 25 August.

the Co-op Bookshop

CAMPUS BESTSELLERS

Rowse:	Australian Liberalism and National Character	\$9.50
Conway:	Land of the Long Weekend—Australia Today	\$3.95
Sampson:	The Arms Bazaar	\$3.95
Packard:	The People Shapers	\$12.95
Mollison & Holmgren:	Permaculture One	\$4.95
Wilson:	The Other Side of Rape	\$5.95

CONCESSIONS AREA, A.N.U. PHONE 49 3550.

discreetly elsewhere on the date of the debate. No member of the National Party could be found who could string more than about three words together before collapsing in exhaustion. In the end we found Michael Baume, Jim Carlton and Michael Hodgman, who turned on a very entertaining performance. They admirably proved that talent is in inverse proportion to one's chances of become a minister.

On July 21 the Law School staged a moot and lost. Oxford left for Melbourne on July 22, having only managed that a trip was planned, the heavens opened.

On a marginally more serious note, the success of the Oxford visit has prompted the Union to try and re-establish Union Night Debates on a regular weekly basis. These debates are established

are an established and popular feature of many English and Australian universities, and were common here until a few years ago. If anyone wants to help on the Union Debates Committee, go and talk to someone in the Union Office.

OXFORD

Complete with jokes generously supplied by the Fitzwilliam Museum of Antiquities in Cambridge, the Oxford University Union Debating Team visited Canberra for four days at the beginning of second semester. The team was in Australia along with teams from Cambridge, Glasgow, Harvard, Columbia, Oregon, Auckland, Canterbury and several Australian universities including ANU for the first Honeywell International Inter-varsity Debating Festival in Sydney.

Despite the fact that all four members of the team are part of Margaret Thatcher's shock troops (she was described by one of them as Atilla the Hen), they were almost human. Nicholas O'Shaughnessy wants to be Viceroy of India and developed an accent to match. John Harrison, disturbed by the absence of choirboys in Canberra, found solace in the company of Greg Carman. Marie-Louise Rossi replaced at 4 hours notice a past president of the Oxford Union, Vivienne Dinham. Mark Sterling, in between drams, managed to defeat the cream sherry of ANU Law School mooting talent, Tom Faunce and Lee Aitkin.

There were two debates in Canberra. The first, on 19th July, was against ANU, able represented by Andrew Byrnes, Steve Bartos and Vivienne Bath. The subject was 'The Only God Can Save the Queen', which Oxford negated. By any standards it was a good piece of comedy, though not perhaps descriptably as a debate. Oxford were rather the worse for

wear, having staggered off a plane from North Queensland just 1½ hours before the debate began.

On 20th July there was a highly successful debate in the Albert Hall against a team from parliament. It proved very difficult to get any MPs at all. Most of the ALP were overseas on their compulsory annual junkets. Many Liberals were to see Canberra in the wet. Every time



WORONI 5

MUSIC

TRB



TOM ROBINSON BAND
"Power in the Darkness" (EMI)

TRB is a rock band formed Jan 77, through series of lucky breaks and much support from diehard fans we landed recording contract that Aus. and British hit Oct/Nov with "2-4-6-8 Motorway".

I was going to say that this is the most important album released since "Never Mind the Bollocks... Here's the Sex Pistols", but then I thought "What the heck" coz this is one of the most significant vinyl discs of all time. Tony Parsons in NME has said that the TRB are "... the most important band the planet has seen, since the Sex Pistols" However I would dispute this, coz on the basis of what the Tom Robinson Band has offered to us you would have to conclude that the late-lamented Sex Pistols were the most important band on the planet, until TRB arrived.

Tom Robinson (bass and vocals) is at the centre of the group, and it is his outright forcefulness about his homosexuality which has gained the band much of their attention. Just one listen to "Sing if you're Glad to be Gay" will demonstrate clearly to you what his attitude is. From early '74 to late '75 he was involved with Gay Switchboard in London, however his involvement has not just been with gay liberation — as he's said "... I'm for women's liberation and class struggle, and for equal rights for blacks too!" And the songs on the album reflect this perspective, from "Up Against the Wall" at the start of side 1, through to "Power in the Darkness" at the end of side 2 — in fact there's only one song amongst the ten on the album, which doesn't have a political theme, and that's "Grey Cortina" (as Tom says: "One of my main ambitions in life is to own a... four door Ford Cortina".)

"Up Against the Wall" is the new single and kicks off the album — it's hard edged rocker, and its lines about Fascists marching in the ghettos / Carving up the welfare state", set the tone for the album. As Tom sees it 1978 is crisis time for Britain, the National Front is on the march demanding near-genocide for Britain's non-white population, and we've been too fucking complacent about it! The backlash is just around the corner, and if we're not careful, and don't organise ourselves, then it's going to hit us, smack! in the face. And though the TRB may be talking about conditions in Britain, it's a message which applied almost equally here. We've already got mad Mal and his mates in Canberra carving up the

WORONI 6

welfare state, and Bjelke John seems to be leading Queensland by its neck back into the 19th Century. Police violence against blacks is almost institutionalised and the forces of "law and order" don't stop at that — try marching up in Queensland for one. Basic rights and liberties are being eroded, "the freedom to live your own life" — women get hassled when they want to get an abortion, gay people can't express themselves. If you oppose uranium mining you get called a subversive and the list goes on. The capitalist shits who run this country are setting us up against one another and they're laughing all the way to the bank. And if you think that you've not affected then take a listen to "Power in the Darkness" coz the "freedom that the fascists are talking about is "freedom from the likes of you!!"

This album isn't designed for musical pleasure — if you think that you pogo to it without thinking about the lyrics, then you'd better f... ck off now! I know when I first played it through I felt depressed, or perhaps more annoyed — outraged at the lot which people at the bottom of the pile get doled out in this society, it ain't nice!

Like if you're a coloured kid born in London, and the NF tells you that they want to deport you to Jamaica, coz you're not good enough for their oh-so-pure white society. And it happens here too! — just think of the racism directed against the migrant population, the myths about gay people being the "corrupters of youth" or the bull-shit stories the media tells us about the trade unions. Then I gave the album a second playing and my anger was mixed with feelings of encouragement — as Tom Robinson has said "if music can ease even a toney fraction of the prejudice and intolerance in this world, then it's worth trying". It's on tracks like "Long Hot Summer" (about the Stonewall Riots in New York in 1969), "The Winter of '79", "Better Decide Which Side you're On", "Power in the darkness" and the venomous rocker "Ain't Gonna Take It", that this really hits out at you. Take a good listen to "Ain't Gonna Take It", and see if you don't find yourself punching a clenched fist in the air.

Just a final WARNING to all you uninitiated "Left is right, and right is wrong! YOU'D better decide which side you're on!!!"

Anton Mauve

COD WAR?

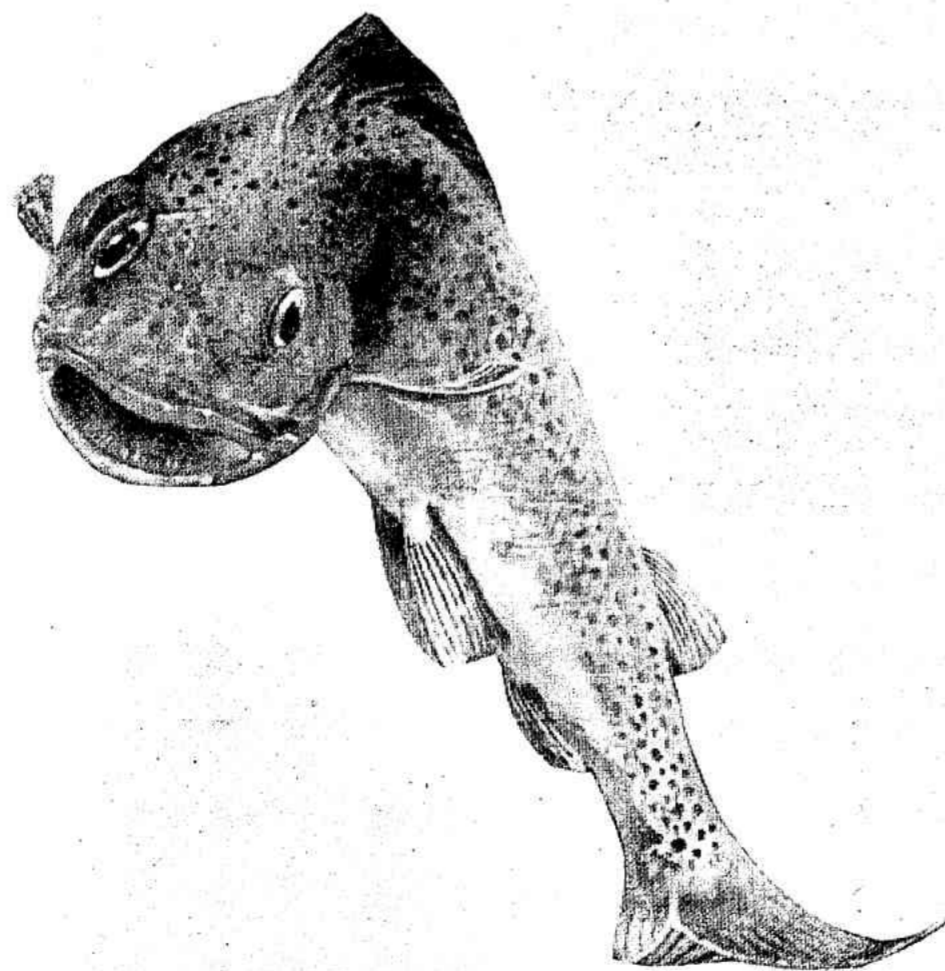
Kevin McLaughlan and the Murrumbidgee Orchestra
"Fire on the Mountain"/ "Whole Wide World".

I freely admit that I am a bigot when it comes to discussing Kev and the M.O. I know it's not the done thing, but I just do not like them. I suppose it's a case of familiarity breeding contempt; I've heard them so many times in the bar, playing exactly the same things in exactly the same order, that I cannot work up any enthusiasm for their debut single.

"Fire on the Mountain", to my ear anyway, is just another Kev and the M.O. song, with nothing unique or original enough to distinguish itself from the rest of their monotonous repertoire. I suppose it would be different if you actually liked them in the first place. A few stereotyped guitar figures, a couple of synthesiser displays and that's it. 'So what' I ask myself. These fun-loving lads seem to have just discovered the synthesiser; the B side absolutely drips with the bloody thing.

"Whole Wide World" is a Wreckless Eric song, and quite frankly, I prefer the original. As it seems trendy at the moment to possess at least one record on the Stiff label, I would hazard a guess that this is how this song found its way onto the single. If Kev and cohorts are trying to be 'New Wave' with this one, they are failing miserably. This song has all the impact of a soggy pizza the way it is treated here. Cute English accent though, fellas. I will probably be done to death in messy ways by the untold thousands of M.O. cultists (just count the number of times BOTH sides of this get flogged on the Union bar juke box) but I don't give a shit. This is one of the most unexciting records I have heard so far this year, apart from the all-pervading disco rubbish. Oh, by the way, did you realise that the fish on the M.O. backdrop is really a European carp? Says something doesn't it.

Derek Yeti.



Anti - Disco

A crowd of 400 plus was at the Anti-Disco on July 31. For a Monday night, this was excellent. Canberrans aren't usually known for going out on Monday nights, but they turned out in bulk supply at the ANU Refectory this time.

Four bands played. Thali-domide did clean clear covers of Pistols and Ramones, and top versions of songs like Dylan's "One More Cup of Coffee" and the Stones' "Brown Sugar".

Lead singer Morris Minor sang with all the force and charm of a garbage disposal unit, while guitarist Con Chord showed just why Rudolf Hess is still in Spandau Prison.

Next on was Myxo. A lot of the people at the Anti-Disco thought they played the best set all night. Certainly the mixing job made their original lyrics understandable, for the first time in living memory. "Lying in the Gutter", "Vinyl Land", "A Fight's Better than a Fuck" - all the Myxo favour-



Myxo

ites were there, strapping the punters up in sonic bondage. These lads have a big future ahead of them. No powder pop, just rocking raging good old-fashioned noise.

Last of the Canberra bands was Tactics, with vaguely clairvoyant Dave Studdert up front. Though he hasn't found the Beaumont children, or solved the Wanda Beach murders, Studdert has a whopping whine of a voice. Tactics was

hampered at the Anti-Disco by bad production, but the anal hypnotism of their music still sphinctered through. Given a chance, Tactics can beat any band in Canberra. Their following of quasi-demented wrist-chewers will vouch for that.

Finishing the by now infamous night was the Sydney group Thought Criminals. Experimental? Total shit? Too fast? You could say all of them or none of them. So there.

GOD IS AN INVENTION OF MAN

Do you agree?

The ANU Atheist Society was established last week by a group of people who think that that statement is true. Whether you agree with it or not, you are welcome to come and talk, read, discuss, debate, etc., no matter what ideas or beliefs you hold. And if you (happy you!) are destitute of ideas, beliefs or doubts, come too.

Why should you bother?

The most important decision you can make in your life is not whether you are or are not going to become a public servant, a BHP executive, a lawyer, a scientist or a gelder; whether you and your husband/wife choose to have two children, a station-waggon, a yacht, a bungalow by the sea, or three little pigs.

Come to our next meeting, next WEDNESDAY, 9th August, at 1 pm in the Board Room, Union building.

ANU MOTORCYCLE CLUB

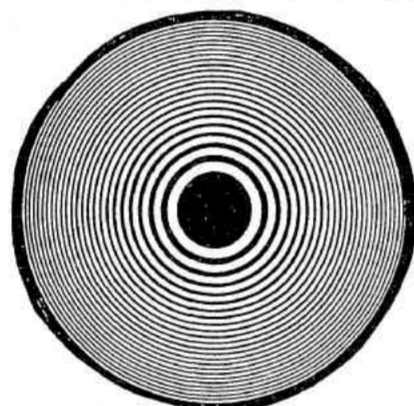
GENERAL MEETING - 9th AUGUST
At 8.00 pm UNION BAR

Discussion:

1. Trip to Amaroo Park - August 26th, 27th
2. Club T-shirts and badges - designs available for choice.

EVERYONE WELCOME !

PASS THE MANDIES, SIEGFRIED...



"Age of Madness"
Jane.

(coupled with primitive Yes and bits of slowed down Sabbath, Pink Floyd etc.), and the deathless verse in 'Love Song':
'You like it hot, I like it cool
You are my sun, I'm the silvery moon...'

Or even

I'm not so green, but I'm feeling so fresh!

I'd simply love to put you to the test... ' Ohmygod

Listen to 'If You can't Rock Me' on 'It's only Rock and Roll' by the Stones and you'll spot that last little gem. If you have a spare bottle of Mandrax on you, I suppose that this is the album for you.

Derek Yeti.

The great "Kraut Rock" explosion of a few years ago has been and gone. The sleeping-sickness victims responsible for this album seem to be survivors of that distant heroic age. They have been around long enough to have their own studio anyway. The fact that it sounds like a plastics factory run by yawning automata doesn't seem to have stopped Jane. The cover gives nothing away, which is probably just as well; I can see them all anyway, just in listening to this record - all lurking behind racks of electronics like the Mighty Thor after dropping a handful of barbituates. The drummer is obviously human, but for all that he does, he could have been replaced by a machine without too much trouble at all. Just imagine several steely-eyed Tuetons trying to stay awake over massed mellotrons and synthesizers and you've got "Age of Madness". There is a guitarist, but his contribution is merely a cut-and-paste pastiche of every guitar figure that Pink Floyd ever used on "Wish You Were Here". Hohum... not that I totally dislike this kind of music though, it's just that there is absolutely nothing arresting on this record at all. There is none of the innovation displayed by Can, or even the heavy metal brainlessness of the Scorpions. Just wallpaper. Things that do remain in mind though, are the old Deep Purple type organ intro to the title track



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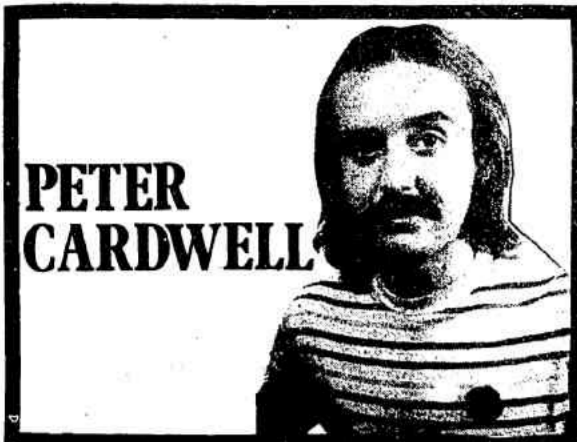
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AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF MANAGEMENT IN THE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES



The Minister for Education's proposed amendments to the Australian National University Act will affect the powers of the Council of the University and will involve the regulation and collection of fees from students and the expenditure of the same. The decision of the Government will involve open intervention and interference in what was considered to be the sole affairs of the University and is unquestionably a deliberate attack on student associations and on the governing Council of the A.N.U.

The lead up to these proposed amendments is nothing less than disgraceful political posturing and reflects a determination by certain members of the Liberal Party to have a go at University students, particularly those at this University, and gives the Government an opportunity of political posturing on the issue of COMPULSORY UNIONISM as it visualizes it, and also on the autonomy of bodies involved in tertiary education.

The two bodies most intimately affected are the Students' Association of the Australian National University and the Australian Union of Students. Officers of the Students' Association are elected from amongst students at the University. (In 1977 36% of students voted for the Officers of the Association). The Association is formed to represent students in a real and meaningful way as set down by its constitution and University statutes. The Australian Union of Students is a national body with which each tertiary institution may choose to affiliate.

The Students' Association has chosen to affiliate with A.U.S. year after year by an overwhelming majority. Motions that we secede from A.U.S. have invariably been rejected by students at general meetings. The suggestion has been put forward by the Government, particularly in the media, that compulsory membership of A.N.U.S.A. and A.U.S. is against the moral convictions of many university students. This is absolute nonsense. Machinery exists at this University for students to opt out of membership but only a

handful of students have expressed such a desire.

The proposed legislation is designed to hobble and even destroy these organisations. I believe all students have the right to participate, to vote and to stand for election to the bodies concerned, but more fundamentally, those who benefit from the activities of the A.N.U.S.A. and A.U.S. should share in the financial burden and the winning of those benefits. The Officers of both bodies are all elected people, and all students have an opportunity of voting and putting forward a point of view on who ought to be elected and on what policies ought to be followed by these bodies. Hence I believe that a universal payment of fees should be required. If they don't want to join the Students' Association then they can apply for exemption under the University's Fees Rules.

The Government's proposed amendments to the A.N.U. Act are completely unacceptable. They confuse more than they explain. The University did not put the proposals to the Government; neither did the Students' Association, the Australian Union of Students or the students. Where did they come from? They came from either the Minister for Education or Cabinet.

The requirements will include:
The Council of the University is to have a duty to ensure that any moneys it makes available to a student organisation for provision of amenities and services are applied bona fide to provision of amenities and services of direct benefit to the University.

Provision of 'amenities and services' of 'direct benefit to the University' (insufficient to cover the breadth of activity of student organisations) What is meant by 'direct benefit to the University?' This phrase confuses more than it explains and court actions over its interpretation will ensue for many years to come.

The reference should really read of direct benefit to students rather than the University.

Similarly 'amenities and services' is an unnecessarily restrictive phrase. There are many activities that

could not be seen under the Act as either being an amenity or service in the narrow sense, but are nonetheless important functions of any student body.

It is ludicrous to presume that University Council, a body with only two undergraduate students on it, is the relevant body to decide what activities are 'bona fide' or to decide what students should do with their money.

2. The Council of the University shall not authorise a students' representative council to expend moneys raised by the University for the provision of amenities or services unless the governing body of that council is elected by students in an election at which not less than one quarter of the students entitled to vote have voted.

Provision that "1/4 of the students" should vote. There is doubt that 25% of students would vote at any election (although in the last two years quite a large percentage of students have voted in S.A. elections)

What other non-compulsory voting organisations are able to get 25% of those eligible to vote, to do so? e.g. local government elections, employer associations and professional associations.

Why an arbitrary 25%? And if we are to have this 25% clause, what is the legal standing of an uncontested election? Why does the clause only apply to the Student Association?

3. A provision that no person shall be required to be a member of any body or organisation in order to entitle him to be admitted as a student or to graduate.

This means that students will not be required to compulsorily be members of any student body. You can opt to join if you like.

Such a clause would make proper planning and budget allocation for student bodies impossible.

We believe that students should be required, except in exceptional circumstances, to be members of student organisations.

Also the clause is unnecessary because under the A.N.U.'s Fees Rules students are already provided with a chance to opt out if they have 'insuperable religious or moral object-

ions' to joining student bodies.

4. The Council is to have published and freely available to students at least twice a year an audited statement as to the amount of fees paid by students for amenities or services that are not of an academic nature, the organisations to which any part of these moneys have been paid and the purposes for which they have been expended.

Provision that 'audited statement' of expenditure be provided at least 'twice a year' is completely unnecessary.

It is not that there is any objection to having our books audited, in fact this is already required under the S.A. Constitution and audited accounts are freely available to all students.

This clause represents an expensive and unnecessary intrusion into student affairs, and provides the University Administration with an opportunity to control student expenditure.

Clearly these proposed amendments have arisen from a paranoid fear of the Liberal Party of ideas because the A.N.U.S.A. and A.U.S. have been prepared to make noise and to run a different line from that of the Government. I believe that the amendments to the A.N.U. Act have been promoted not as an embodiment of the principles put forward by the Government, but that they represent nothing less than sheer political thuggery. The Government has put forward these amendments, to appease its supporters both in Cabinet, in the backbench and in the Aust. Liberal Students' Federation, even though there was not compulsory unionism at the A.N.U. and students could opt out on conscience grounds.

Peter Cardwell.

**OPPOSE
ANTI-STUDENT
LEGISLATION.**

**Rally Tuesday,
August 15.**

**ANU Union
Court 12:30pm.**

WORONI 8

**STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 9
at 8.00pm**

Union Meeting Room

BE THERE!

VOLUNTARY UNIONISM



In December 1948 Australia passed the United Nations "Universal Declaration of Human Rights", together with the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Article 21 of the declaration states that:
(1) "Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association"
(2) "No one may be compelled to belong to an association"

In this matter before us, that of compulsory membership of student associations, Article 21 is a useful tool, because it differentiates between the right to organise into an association and the compulsory acquisition of members.

The first is a human right, the latter an abuse of human rights.

The arguments for individual rights are based not on mere numbers, but on some inalienable gifts which are given to every person on birth. In the inaugural Sir Robert Menzies Lecture, Lord Hailsham spoke of the struggle between people who espoused the theory of limited government and those who propose centralised democracy or elective dictatorship. "The former asserts that minorities and individuals have rights and interests which cannot be overridden by a majority, however large. Though it respects the authority of governments and institutions it will prescribe limits beyond which governments and Parliaments must not trespass. The latter asserts the right of the bare majority to do what it will. It believes it right that such a majority should impose on the entire community whatever laws or structures it pleases, guided only by what it conceives to be the common good."

In Woroni special publication on compulsory unionism, an article titled "The case for Compulsory Unionism in the Student body" argues this point of the common good. It states that "The idea of the common good is what motivates governments. The idea of the common good is what motivates trade unions. But student associations who work for the common good (student affairs) are not allowed to do this through compulsion because the individual suffers."

Who determines the common good in each case? In the context of a student association this is inevitably determined by a small group of politically conscious and politically motivated people. Yet in its structure the student association purports to be a democratic institution, in which all students may participate. The apparent contradiction is explained by the elegant words of Professor Heinz Arndt in his submission to Council. He states that in Australia, as in most western countries, there exists a "minority that fervently believes in the need to awaken the political consciousness of students as part of what they see as a wider need for the politicisation of all aspects of social life. Students who share this conviction and who come to the University primarily to study are caught in a dilemma. Either they refrain from participation in student politics and thus leave the field largely to the activists or they organise political opposition to the activists, at the price of study time, and thus, after all achieve the activists' purpose" of politicisation.

In this situation of compulsory membership every student therefore is being coerced into the role of student politician. The non-participant cannot protest at what the elect minority can do in his name, because he has a right to attend. By means of this "democratic" manipulation it is possible to

erect monstrous tyrannies, which destroy the notion of a private individual, and do so with a spurious moral authority.

We thus suffer under "common good" as determined by political activists. Voluntary membership of student associations gives each individual the right to determine his own good and not that as formulated by an undemocratic minority.

At the beginning of each year, one can witness a resurgence of interest in Student Association meetings largely attended by the uninitiated. But there is rapid disillusionment. Manipulation of meetings by those acquainted with standing orders, and deliberate confusions of meetings procedure ensure that all but the most ardent activists never return. This phenomenon was most apparent only two weeks ago when threatened with its very existence, a Student Association meeting could muster only 178 people out of a total compulsory membership of 4831 — and that is abstention rate of 96%. In the same meeting a motion dealing with the special edition of Woroni rejected an amendment "Further that the issue contain articles by students who support the governments' action" No doubt in the interest of the common good.

What is clear is that the term "students' association is somewhat of a misnomer. It would be more true to say that we have an association of active students. This explains the enormous difficulties that officers of the Association are encountering in their attempts to solicit mass student support. The fact is that most students do not believe that the Association is theirs nor feel a special affinity with it.

The literature to date, supporting compulsion of membership has lacked any sort of moral content whatsoever. By this I mean that arguments of power rather than of principle are being presented to students. We are told that pending government legislation is being imposed on student organisations, with the appropriate slogan of "Student Control of Student Affairs". at least this is more rational than "Compulsory Unionism is your Right". But returning to the first slogan two questions immediately arise. Firstly, what is meant by student control or what are the limitations of student affairs. Secondly, does the proposed legislation alter the present state, presumably where students to have control of their affairs.

If student control inevitably means active students control as I have outlined then student affairs must lie within boundaries set by these activists. It would be unreasonable for active students to impose their beliefs upon non-participating students as vice versa. Indeed, it is this state of affairs where activists make no financial demands on "passivists" and in turn enjoy freedom to pass whatever resolutions they wish — in their own name — that the legislation will achieve. It therefore does not hinder activists control of their own affairs, merely their control of other people's affairs.

Much of the argument in favour of the student Association lies with the supposed benefits that it confers upon students, such as clubs and societies' grants, Woroni and 2XX. But these benefits do not in themselves justify compulsory membership. Rather they will be of concern when each individual student makes his choice as to perceived gains by joining the association weighed against financial

loss incurred as a result. A problem does exist with 2XX however given its inability to deter "freeloaders", the station will need to alter its format so as to confer a gain on those who pay subscription fee and receive free literature, perhaps student discounts on 2XX functions, and even the satisfaction of supporting a worthy cause. I believe that the increased reliance on subscriptions will force the station into becoming more acceptable to and representative of the community at large, and thus truly worthy of community support. It is important to realize that 2XX is a community radio station which will continue regardless of Students' Association sponsorship.

It is often claimed by Student Association officers that their ability to deal with University bureaucrats helps all students regardless of their levels of participation. This argument assumes that in fact those bureaucrats do respond to their demands or requests and further that no more representative means of determining student opinion can be found. I would argue strongly against both assertions.

Contrary to general activist espousals the influence of student agitation on university bureaucracies is extremely limited. The willingness of bureaucrats to deal with student issues will largely be determined by their perceptions of the wishes of broad mass of students. In many cases compensation must be made for the skewed nature of student association politics, as bureaucrats are well aware of its unrepresentative bias. Students are therefore being represented by an organisation which cannot be taken seriously as an indicator of student beliefs.

If the University bureaucracy is not interested in student opinion, it appears to be irrelevant what form student organisations take. If however bureaucracy is concerned to stay abreast of the general mood of the campus, then it needs a number of "fingers" rather than an artificial stump. One Junion Common Room meeting of any particular Hall or College is more likely to be more representative of the average student view than a Student Association meeting for a number of reasons. The highly poisonous atmosphere of divisive politics is absent from these proceedings: motions put forward by Liberals for example, are not rejected out of hand on the grounds of ideological hatred. J.C.R. meetings in the order of 150 meet enjoy a numerical superiority over Student Association counterparts which rarely exceed 60 people and almost without exception are dissolved for lack of a quorum. In the collective situation of six J.C.R.s a voluntary activists association, residential committees of non-collegiate accommodation, and the part-timers association, one is canvassing the views of 25% of this university on any issue rather than the current level of 1%. This improvement would convey a far greater persuasive force as well as satisfying bureaucracy's need for student information.

I wish now to consider specific details of proposed government legislation as it will affect the A.N.U. At the outset I would mention that in this matter the Liberal Party and the A.L.P. enjoy a bi-partisan policy of voluntary membership of students' associations. The A.L.P. viewpoint was outlined at its Perth Conference in 1977 and subsequently confirmed by the Leader

of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Ken Wriedt, on June 2, 1978.

The legislation divides A.N.U.'s various unions into two categories, functional and political, and accords compulsory status to the former and voluntary status to the latter. The basis for each status is determined by a union's purpose. The Student Association is a political organisation that passes resolutions and expends money according to its political goals and objectives. The Union and Sports Union are functional in nature, and merely provide a standard service to each student regardless of any political affiliations of their officers. They do not pass resolutions in the name of all, nor is it possible to sell for example, a Liberal hamburger or an extreme left pie. Thus, political activities are almost impossible in this area.

The consequence of this division is to make most aspects of traditional student services exempt from the effects of the legislation. The Bar, Refectory, Union, Sports Union, squash courts, gymnasium and Law Society, will remain funded by compulsory fees. Certain other areas of student concern such as the employment and Health Centre, the free bus, and identification cards are provided by the University itself and are not embodied within the functions of the Union or Sports Union.

It is perhaps the complicated nature of A.N.U.'s Union structure, with three completely separate organisations, which has led to general student confusion and disquiet. Ironically, student activists with intimate knowledge of that structure have been the most reluctant to explain it in detail, and in some instances have deliberately created misleading information.

Finally, the proposed legislation, prohibits payments by any student organisation, to areas not of direct benefit to students. Rather than being seen as an arrogant imposition, students should realize that this clause ensures that their fees contribute to their direct welfare. It prevents student activists from taking over the Services Union or the Sports Union and applying funds to outside political interest groups such as the anti-ASEAN campaign or the Malaysian Communist Party. It guarantees the protection of law to entrusted money in the same way as company law prevents shareholders' funds from being used for private purposes by management. It is little wonder that committed student activists are most bitter and most scathing in their criticism of this protective clause.

In the final analysis the proposed legislation promotes and protects the notions of individual rights, academic freedom, freedom of association and further protects students from those who would otherwise exploit them.

Alastair Walton.



THE DOPE DROUGHT



Many of you have no doubt experienced the horrendous effects of the dope drought which has gripped Canberra in 1978. Long standing residents of Canberra have labelled this situation as the worst dope drought in recorded history. The days of plenty appear to be over and it is almost impossible to purchase a bulky deal of good old Australian grown grass.

Inflation has finally affected dope prices (due to scarcity value as economists would say) and both prices have gone up and the size of deals down. Cannabis has generally been available (if at all) in the more concentrated forms such as buddha sticks, hash and hash oil as well as the occasional deal of chaffed grass. Larger amounts such as pounds and half pounds have been almost impossible to score.

What does this all mean? Well it means that for the regular cannabis enthusiasts it is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive to pursue

CANNABIS DOES NOT EQUAL INSANITY

their hobby. The one-time reasonably reliable black market for cannabis has become sporadic and increasingly rip-off.

Why has this occurred? Well my personal theory starts with the events of last year surrounding the Great Griffith witch hung. At this time increasing attention was being paid to the "unscrupulous" cannabis growers who made "millions" by preying on the "weakness" of others. Several busts of small plantations occurred, three royal commissions began and satellites became a new threat to growers. Laws were changed so that growers could be punished and police efforts at cannabis arrests multiplied.

All this at the very time when Australia's many cannabis growers would ordinarily plant the season's crop.

Under the circumstances at the time it is clear that growers thought twice about planting and consequently we have experienced a marked shortage of Australian grown cannabis.

Recent efforts by customs and police at intercepting tonnes of buddha sticks on the north coast of New South Wales will undoubtedly precipitate a continuation of the devastating dope drought.

What is to be done? What needs to be done has been spelt out in just about every government or non-government report throughout the world since 1894. There is now a need greater than in any time before to LEGALIZE CANNABIS.

The shortage of cannabis has not been associated with shortages of other harder drugs such as alcohol or heroin and consequently it may be anticipated that hard drug use may increase as a result of the



cannabis shortage. Do you find yourself taking more alcohol since the dope drought or looking around for something, anything to get you pleasantly stoned? Many people have found themselves in this dangerous situation which can only be

remedied by the establishment of a reliable, legal supply of good quality Cannabis.

The South Australian Royal Commission, the 1977 Senate Report, the N.S.W. Joint Parliamentary Report and many others have recommended decriminalization or legalization of Cannabis. Premier Wran stated in his election platform that he would decriminalize Cannabis. What has been done? Nothing!!

Politicians depend on public support for their decisions (purely for self preservation) and thus it is up to us the public, to support our politicians in any move towards dope legalization. It is up to us to write letters to our local member demanding that cannabis be legalized and it is up to us to educate those ignorant members of the public who know nothing about drugs yet who profess to be experts.

Where do you start? Why not in your own backyard. What does your family think about it? If you can't convince your own flesh and blood who can you convince? Next time you're home bring up the subject, talk about it, explain the facts of the situation. They will see that you, their loved one, is not hopelessly insane and maybe begin to realize the truth.

Once you convince them, they will (unconsciously) help spread the truth throughout the community.

What else can you do? Join a Cannabis action group, go out into the community, hand out pamphlets, wear a badge, show the world that you are a sane, law-abiding person just like everyone else, even though you smoke Cannabis. But whatever you do, don't just sit back and complain about the drought or the price of dope without doing something about it.

Erich Janssen

M.A.G.!

M.A.G. has started to move once again, after a lapse of a month or two, with a meeting that was held on the 27th July.

Once again we must apologise for the mess up with the raffle. As you all must know, it has been nearly impossible to score a deal, let alone enough for a smoke-in. We have decided to postpone the smoke-in indefinitely and to raffle the deal as soon as we can get our hands on one. Please bear with us.

We are going to start the stalls again and the first one will be in the Union, at lunchtime, Thursday 3rd August. If you're interested in M.A.G., come along and ask us what it entails.

The National Cannabis Conference is to be held at ANU on the 17th and 18th of August. It will be held in the Union Bistro.

There will be a wide variety of speakers - doctors, solicitors, writers, politicians and so on. I think it will be well worth attending, because the use of marijuana will be looked at from many different angles.

The cost for this conference will be \$2 a day for students and unemployed and \$5 a day for working people.

I daresay everyone has heard of the recommendations put forward by the Royal Commission into the Non Medical Use of Drugs in South Australia. They have put forward a few recommendations spanning from

stiff penalties to totally free use of marijuana (i.e. like the sale of cigarettes).

We are supporting the recommendation that dope be sold through government stores and we be allowed to grow it ourselves and that there be restricted sale (i.e. not to minors).

The thing is, a lot of people who are totally against dope will be writing to the Commission whereas many smokers won't bother.

WE NEED SMOKERS TO CARE. So please write to the Commission voicing your views. M.A.G. will also be organising a petition.

The address to write to is:

Royal Commission into the
Non Medical Use of Drugs,
G.P.O. Box 221,
Adelaide, Sth. Aust. 5001.

recipe

HASH BROWNIES

Hashish and chocolate are a fine combination. Pulverize 5 grams of top quality Hash. Melt over hot water:

60 gms unsweetened chocolate
1/3 cup butter

Add the Hash. Beat in: 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs. Sift together and stir in:
3/4 cup cake flour, 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt.

Mix in: 1/2 cup chopped walnuts.

Bake for 30 minutes in an 8 inch square greased pan. When cool, spread with chocolate icing and top with half walnuts and toasted Cannabis seeds.



EXAMINATIONS

AT PEOPLE. WHY BE EATEN???



So, who the hell are we anyway? And it's not that we spend our time hiding under a mound of chewed files and AUS monographs. Travelling the time tunnel worn between the Students' Association office and the bar, we often muse reflectively on the anonymity of our situation. Who are we, we think and down another old beer. No small cognisance is paid to us by ourselves.

Caught in the updraft between the Tank and the Arts Faculty Office, late for another lecture, spilling papers everywhere, after four hours of fruitless meetings, with concerned academics with coffee stains on their shirt fronts, one often wonders. As I watch my hat soaring over the John Dedman Building, in a fit of pique I kick a nearby Associate Visiting Research Fellow in Sociology from Ontario State University. I grovel back to the sanctuary of the office and roll a joint. I ponder, we'll all go down like a ship of state, I begin to sing. Stop, Stop I scream. This is fatalism! Have a drink. Phew. Lying in bed late at night, I wonder. We still don't know. And we still stay late in the office laying out Woroni, with straws in our hair and the ash from slowly dropping Camels congealing on the rims of our glasses. We still scream and call out in our sleep. We still wet the bed after every Association meeting. Even for the supreme power vested in our political positions, and even for the pleasure of being baited by the Liberals, it's probably not worth it. So who the hell are we? Come and find out, we all need someone to talk to.



"Most of them are on filthy drugs which rot their minds, you know. They won't be able to last out much longer."

Compulsory exams, or indeed compulsory directives of any sort serve only to alienate the student from the real purpose of education. They serve to regiment students by working on the assumption that, because all students are basically the same, think the same way and have the same object in mind when they take a particular course, they can all be assessed the same way.

On the contrary, education should represent an opportunity for any person taking a course to realize certain objectives they have set for themselves in taking that course, in the way to which they are best suited individually. Students should have the right therefore to jointly determine with staff the objectives and content of the courses they take.

The Education Committee is particularly opposed to all forms of compulsory examination, because, as has been noted in the past, they direct a whole year's work into the sole result of a few days preparation, three hours regurgitation, two weeks anticipation and then five seconds observation of an impersonal and often violently disappointing notice-board. An examination system serves only to cut down the level of thought and expression in a given course to the few sets of facts and standard ideas which will guarantee the 'right' results. If universities are to cease being degree factories these compulsory exams are the first 'production line' processes which must go.

As is noted in AUS Education Motion No.57, the present system of assessment leads to a number of set situations which could be summarized thus:

- (i) learning is treated as an artificial process which serves to gain one a certificate, whereupon one emerges into the outside world, 'qualified'.
- (ii) students are forced to see themselves as graded and thence stratified, i.e. some 'better' than others.
- (iii) course content is hardly determined by students at all.
- (iv) the emphasis of courses seems to be on 'passing' rather than learning.
- (v) students are forced to compete against each other.
- (vi) the present system continues to be prejudiced against women students.
- (vii) such things as deadlines, word limits, etc. can act as arbitrary and unreasonable barriers to students achieving satisfaction in their work.
- (viii) the present system allows for the bias of the marker to affect the result given and encourage the

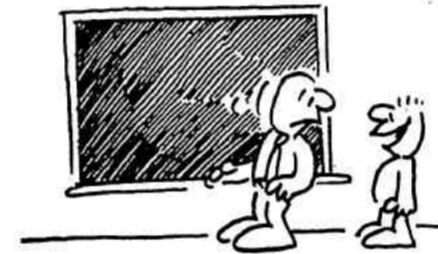


NO BUTS! YOU STAY WHERE WE PUT YOU.

repetition of certain orthodox 'acceptable' points of view.

(ix) the present system is generally stressful to the majority of students.

In the light of the above, the ANU Education Committee intends to commit itself, with sufficient student support, to the realization of equal staff-student determination of course content and a flexible system of assessment in all departments. With this system no special form of assessment would be compulsory and no part of any one course would have to be passed for the course to be passed overall. Further, no student would be penalized or victimized for her/his opinions and beliefs.



WHAT'S IT WORTH IF I DON'T STIR YOU THIS LESSON?

Departmental Committees must be recognized as legitimate sources of ideas and as being representative of student opinion by members of staff who have hitherto disregarded them. Hopefully they will become organs of decision-making with departments, the decisions of which must be binding on those departments. Accusations of plagiarism must be able to be taken before them and discussed in a more open fashion than has been the custom in the past.

Such improvements in the level of academic freedom on this campus will only become possible with the support and involvement of the majority of students, both on the Departmental and Students' Association level. There has been much talk in the last two years concerning the attitudes of certain departments towards assessment. Complaints have come frequently from students in the Law School and the Japanese, English, Political Science and History departments, to name a few. A number of people on this campus in 1978 have been trying to translate some of this talk into action. With the involvement of more students, particularly first year students who may suddenly find themselves in a framework of assessment just as inflexible as that of most high schools, such action should achieve some results.

The implementation of education policy needs majority support.



SO WHO THE HELL ARE WE, ANYWAY ?

The following proposal was put forward in 1972 by Fred Ellinghaus, Senior Lecturer in Law at Melbourne University.

The proposal advocates abolishing assessment for certification, on the grounds that the Law School as an institution concerned with education, has no intrinsic concern with any process of professional qualification.

Proposal for an Experiment in the Abolition of Assessment within the Law School I want at the outset to ask for a certain objectivity of response to this paper. If its title, or the name of its author, has already elicited an automatic reaction, then obviously there is no point in the exercise.

One should begin by looking at the deleterious effects of assessment. The question is best tackled in this way, because to establish that a system or method produces misery is to allocate the onus of advocacy. And misery is surely the inevitable product of assessment — of any method of assessment, whether by examination or by subtler or more fashionable means. Assessment involves comparison and therefore competition. There may be some who exult in comparison. Even the habitual winner, however, is not free of the apprehension of reversed fortune. And the number of habitual winners is, in any case, statistically insignificant. For the vast majority of our students assessment means misery, the fear of failure,

of not doing as well as another, or as well as one ought to. This misery has countless varying constituents; anxiety, boredom, jealousy, ambition and bitterness, evasion and rationalization — all the destructive activities launched by the threatened ego.

Maybe it is difficult for us any longer to see this clearly; we have ourselves, after all, to varying degrees survived the elements of competition, and have achieved a security of sorts. It is our habit to turn away, a habit presumably developed as a shield against the more painful aspects of the process. It seems to me vital that we should discard this habit, that we should look as clearly as possible at the misery which we inflict on our students by the process of assessment. And one can look clearly only if one abandons, in the looking, any form of resistance or hostility, any posture of authority or demand.

Perhaps it is possible to reach consensus to this extent: the process of learning (even if understood, narrowly and inadequately, as the mere acquisition of expertise) would be more rewarding if carried on under different circumstances, if it were motivated by interest or even affection rather than the desire or need to compete. The law school should be a place where law is offered as something worth investigating for its own sake — no more and no less.

One could not aptly so describe the present actuality. Instead we all are pragmatists to the bone, students and teachers alike.

What would happen if we did away with all forms of assessment whatsoever?

It is true without doubt that the carrot and the stick induce a certain process of energy. The question is whether the energy so produced is of pathological kind. I mean this quite seriously. Energy which is the product of fear or of the competitive urge, as distinct from energy born of interest or affection, seems to me to savour inevitably of the pathological. Such energy can normally result only

in violence of one kind or another, to oneself or others. (I do not, obviously, make that odd distinction here between physical and other violence). Of course, we are quite used to accepting the violence of competition; we have all engaged in it; and continue to do so; it is, in fact, a sort of *grundnorm* of our social order. That "order" is, however, a diseased one, as must surely be conceded.

Our ideologies, of whatever kind, are drenched in violence, subtle or gross. The question is whether the indulgence of the competitive urge, or, more correctly, its elevation to the level of the normative, is not precisely the root cause of our troubles. I do not think that this is a subject for "debate" or for the "exchange of opinions". The question is surely a very serious one:

it needs to be looked into actually, profoundly, and not merely by way of taking one's leashed and armoured reflexes for a short walk around the block.

Obviously the abolition of competition within the law school would produce a diminution in the expenditure of such effort as is the result of the competitive drive. That is the point of the exercise. (I say diminution rather than elimination because the law school is not the world). And in itself, one hastens to add, this would be no very positive achievement. The assessment does not represent or guarantee such achievement; it is to be understood rather as the negation of disorder, as the creation of space in which the positive might perhaps come to pass.

Though the amount of "work" done by students would be less in such circumstances (how much less? — those of us who are in the habit of expecting the worst should consider whether we are not merely projecting our own neuroses), does it follow that there would be a lowering of "professional standards"? That is, will students who emerge from a course untouched by assessment have a lower level of knowledge or expertise than our present graduates?

I suspect not. For the fact is that our graduates have at present on the average a very low level of such knowledge or expertise. This is so not in spite of, but precisely because of, the existence of assessment. Assessment drives the assessee to the books, probably in succumbing in filling their minds with a certain knowledge for a time — but surely only for a time. The presence of coercion actually prevents proper contact with the subject-matter. We know in ourselves that we learn and retain most efficiently when we are interested; for most of use the task becomes more difficult (becomes a "task") in proportion to the degree of "ought" or "must" present in it. The more coercion, the more resistance;

The fuelling factor, in the present case, is assessment in any given subject; as soon as each subject hurdle is overcome, the body of knowledge in question becomes obsolete and accordingly falls away. I know how I felt when I came to study for the final honours examination; what I remembered of

my courses was boredom, exasperation, despair, and perhaps a case-name or two. It was as if they had never happened, or happened only in a dream. Surely that is what cramming, or pressure essay-writing, or whatever, is in the main all about; the short-term acquisition of material imperfectly understood, leading to the display of a pretended expertise, a sham sophistication, a desperate

ingenuity. To believe that these processes have real value is to be ensnared by fantasy.

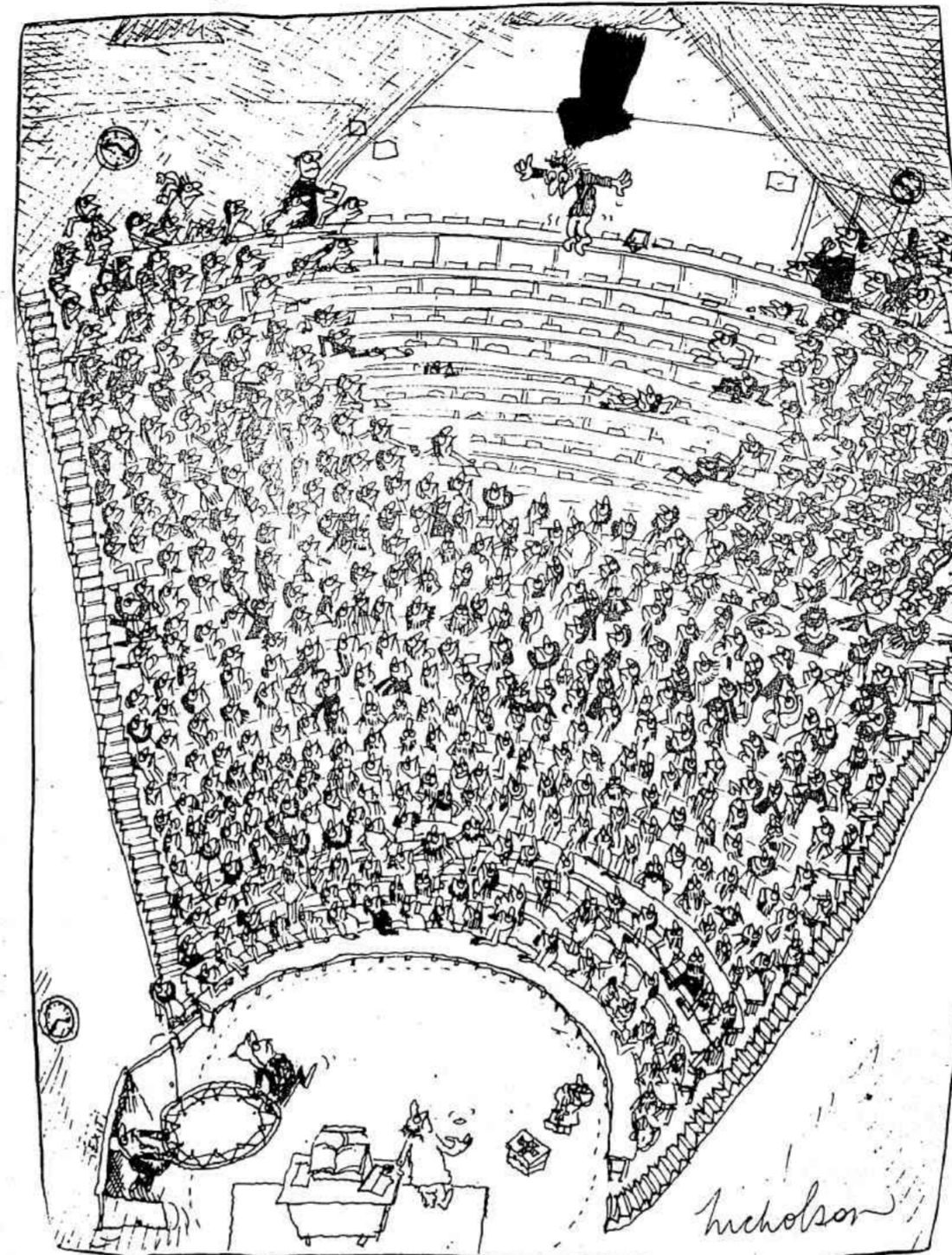
So it is my guess that the abolition of assessment would not of itself significantly reduce the amount of knowledge actually commanded by graduates at, say, six months after graduation. The need is not to examine or assess students, but merely to ensure that they are exposed to the law. Now, it must be conceded, pre-university schooling being what it is (that is, being in all essentials similar to tertiary schooling), that if we were simply to hand out degrees on the basis of enrolment a proportion of students would not be sighted anywhere near a class-room, let alone the library. I would propose, therefore, that the abolition of assessment be accompanied by the introduction of a system of quasi-compulsory class attendance in order that all students are brought into contact with the substance of the law. The horse is to be led to the water, but not made to drink. I mean by "quasi-compulsory" that attendance at all classes would not, for obvious reasons, be required: a stipulation of, say, seventy-five per cent seems to be adequate.

On the basis of such attendance we should bravely award degrees to all. Which brings us to the next point. A degree which reflects merely attendance, which makes no pretence at being a certificate of competence or expertise, cannot, of course, be a professional qualification. (In the light of what has been said, to what extent can we claim that our present degree is a certificate of professional aptitude?) I quite see that a profession which sells expert services to the public, or purports to do so, has something of a duty to ensure that its members actually possess the requisite expertise. It may choose to do so by examination or by an apprenticeship system, or whatever, and it may make the LL.B. a prerequisite to professional practice (as I think it should) or it may not. The important point is that the law school, as an institution concerned with education, has no intrinsic concern with any process of professional qualification. If we take our job at all seriously, we must see that it has only incidentally to do with the production of professionals; it has rather to do with changing the world (that is, ourselves). We often pay lip-service to this idea, but actual reform is thought

possible, it seems, only to the extent of a mere relocation or substitution of effects.

I do not mean, of course, that the law school and the profession should isolate themselves from each other. On the contrary: I propose the segregation of the process of education from that of professional qualification as a means, the only viable means of co-operation between the academic and the professional worlds of law. Co-operation is impossible where there is exploitation, and the present system, whereby the law school is expected to provide a professional training, is one of institutionalised exploitation.

I do not mean, either, that we should cease to teach law; that would be absurd. On the contrary, the proposal is that we should begin to teach law. That is, to offer it not in terms of an obstacle course, but as something that invites study for its own sake — to the extent to which we think it does. Having law offered to him in this way will allow the student an opportunity to de-



cide whether he responds to it or not, which is, after all, the very first thing to be found out if we are concerned to educate him, not merely to turn him into a professional.

(Somebody may say: what will happen if not enough people find they like to go on with law, and the profession runs short of recruits? What an extraordinary argument this entails: are people for society, or is society for people?)

What I have said about the effects of abolishing assessment on professional know-how falls, of course, into the realm of speculation. I believe that my guess is right. Others may profoundly disagree. All they can offer, however, is mere speculation also. So why not experiment? If we are really interested in finding out the truth on this point, why don't we try abolishing assessment, and see what happens? It would surely not be difficult to devise strictly empirical means for testing the outcome so far as it affects knowledge. For instance, we might retain assessment for all students presently enrolled in the law school, and give them all a mid-year test designed simply to show how much they retain by way of knowledge from the previous year's work. (I suggest mid-year as the suitable point of time for obvious reasons) We could give the same test to students who enrol after 1973 and who would not, for the experiment's sake be subject to assessment. By 1975 or 1976 we should then be in a position to stop the mere debating of likely outcomes.

I cannot for the life of me understand why we should not at least experiment along the lines suggested. It has been suggested that by abolishing honours grades we will prejudice application for overseas scholarships, even if we substitute formal statement of recommendation or the like. This may be true, I do not know. If it is it seems to me a small price to pay, in democratic terms. Anyway, "we must cripple you for your own good" seems a suspect argument. And what would happen in this connection, if all Australian law schools were to abolish assessment; and is this possibility not likely to remain a merely utopian one unless someone leads the way?

I hope I have not struck too apocalyptic a note in all this, which might be thought a joke by some, or below notice by others. I am really quite serious, I wish above all to convey that seriousness, in the face of whatever shortcomings my proposal may be thought to have.

group assessment:

How Does Group Assessment Work?

At the outset of a course different criteria of assessment are discussed and evaluated. Often students will express a preference to particular criteria, which the group agrees to use in the assessment process.

A week or more before the meeting, the tutorial paper or essay is duplicated and distributed to all members of the class. Staff and students prepare for the meeting by reading the paper, following up references and marking difficult or interesting points on the paper.

During the meeting the paper is systematically discussed with the tutor acting as resource person and assisting where necessary. In a group of aggressive students a tutor may need to intervene to ensure that more reserved members can speak freely. By the end of the year the groups can usually discipline themselves but at the beginning some students, often women, are unused to speaking out.

Grades are arrived at by discussion. Each participant justifies his/her recommended grade and it is occasionally necessary to discuss the criteria people are using at this stage, especially if it is felt that at criterion which had been rejected is being used by one or more group members. In most, almost every, case a consensus is reached, but in the rare cases where there are irreconcilable differences in the group, a vote is taken. This is a last resort for the class per se, but if the minority group (be it solely constituted by students or by students and staff or rarely by the staff member alone), is seriously concerned about the grade, an appeal can be made to the Discipline. Appeals are heard by students and one or two staff members.

Let us be very clear that group assessment is not a crude process of mindless voting. All work is seriously considered and grading emerges from a discussion of the paper with the student able to defend his or her work and participating in all stages of assessment. It is an attempt to bridge the gap between criticism and grading and involves consciously exposing and discussing the criteria of value in intellectual work and certification. Although the gap can never be fully bridged, group assessment attempts to make this process less mechanical, not more so.

Of course there are practical problems — personal clashes, the distrust of our peers we have learned from years of competitive education, women's socialised reticence and passivity. These are not easily overcome in a competitive, sexist society which still demands grading and certification, and it would be utopian to expect that they would be. One necessary requirement, however, is that teachers and students, but importantly teachers, are educated to be alert and sensitive to students problems so that they can assist in the development of a co-operative group.

Limitations

Group Assessment does not solve all education problems and there are two important objections made to it.

The first sees the process as anal-

ogous to worker participation or productivity deals, in which students are co-opted to act as their own overseers.

The second is less weighty, but sees the group assessment process as yet another burden on overworked students.

Viewed in isolation these views seem very damaging. However, both can be dealt with if we locate group assessment as part of a strategy for democratizing the universities and colleges, a strategy which in turn arises from our analysis of the role of education in present society.

In the process of group assessment the unnecessary opposition of staff and students is broken down. Staff, unlike the bosses in a productivity deal, are not the ruling class, although many identify with that class. Moreover, and most importantly, students and staff participating in group assessment do learn to co-operate to develop notions of discipline and responsibility that are based on a collective, not on academic terror and repression. This cannot be achieved under present assessment methods. Even sympathetic staff members cannot offer a situation in which alternative forms of co-operative consciousness develop as long as they retain ultimate power. At best they remain benevolent despots.

Group assessment becomes a burden only if its introduction is divorced from a struggle for democratic control of course content, work loads and timetabling. It cannot be grafted on to pre-existing courses, where such decisions have been made by an academic or academics without effective participation of students. When such attempts are made the results may well be disastrous. This is why the fight for group assessment must go hand in hand with struggle for greater student participation in all aspects of educational decision-making.

The Wav Forward

Group assessment is the only assessment method yet developed which is both educationally reliable and politically sound. It is, however, only part of the process of changing the society and education, not an end in itself and not a cure-all for our educational problems. Such ills can only be healed when the entire society is transformed to one in which all aspects of life are controlled directly and democratically, and where production is directed to people's needs not profit. However, if A.U.S. is seriously concerned with education and with education in society, then all members should be seriously concerned with the assessment grading process. Group assessment will not appear tomorrow nor will it be handed down from the top. It will come only when students are educated and prepared to struggle for it. We call on A.U.S. Council not only to adopt a position of principled support

for group assessment, but to educate students about this process. We call on them to actively support and encourage the struggles which are already occurring on some campuses and to assist in the initiation of struggles on all campuses against the mishmash of assessment methods now used.

FOR A BETTER EDUCATION AND A BETTER SOCIETY DEMOCRATIZE THE UNIVERSITY.

One achievement of exams is that they spread sickness and death. There is no doubt that exams annually precipitate a wave of tension, unrest and misery among students. "Third term blues" is a well-known phenomenon. Statistical evidence shows that the known incidence of mental illness among students is significantly higher around exam time, than at other times. At the British Student Health Association 1968 conference it was generally agreed that between 8% - 11% of all students seek medical treatment for various exam-related conditions. One can only guess at the number of those who don't seek treatment for similar conditions (or seek treatment away from student health services) and therefore don't enter the statistics.

Here are some descriptions by medical authors of the reactions to exams commonly encountered:

"During the course of an exam students are sometimes brought out in a state of almost total phisic collapse, shivering, unable to write, think or even to walk."

"Examination panic. These are the cases of students who start their papers, but get increasingly anxious or exhausted and finally leave the examination room. Sometimes they actually faint or have nose-bleeds, sometimes they are overcome by headache or migraine, but for the most it is just an increasing and overwhelming feeling of nervousness, tension and despair, with an incapacity to remember things they previously knew. The great majority of these students have already suffered from a long period of mounting pre-exam strain."

"Such (ie pre-exams) behaviours include all the well known symptoms, ranging from restlessness and bladder irritability to full blown panic attacks and mania."

"There is reason to believe that examination stresses in some circumstances can give rise to thought disorder not immediately distinguishable from that of schizophrenia."

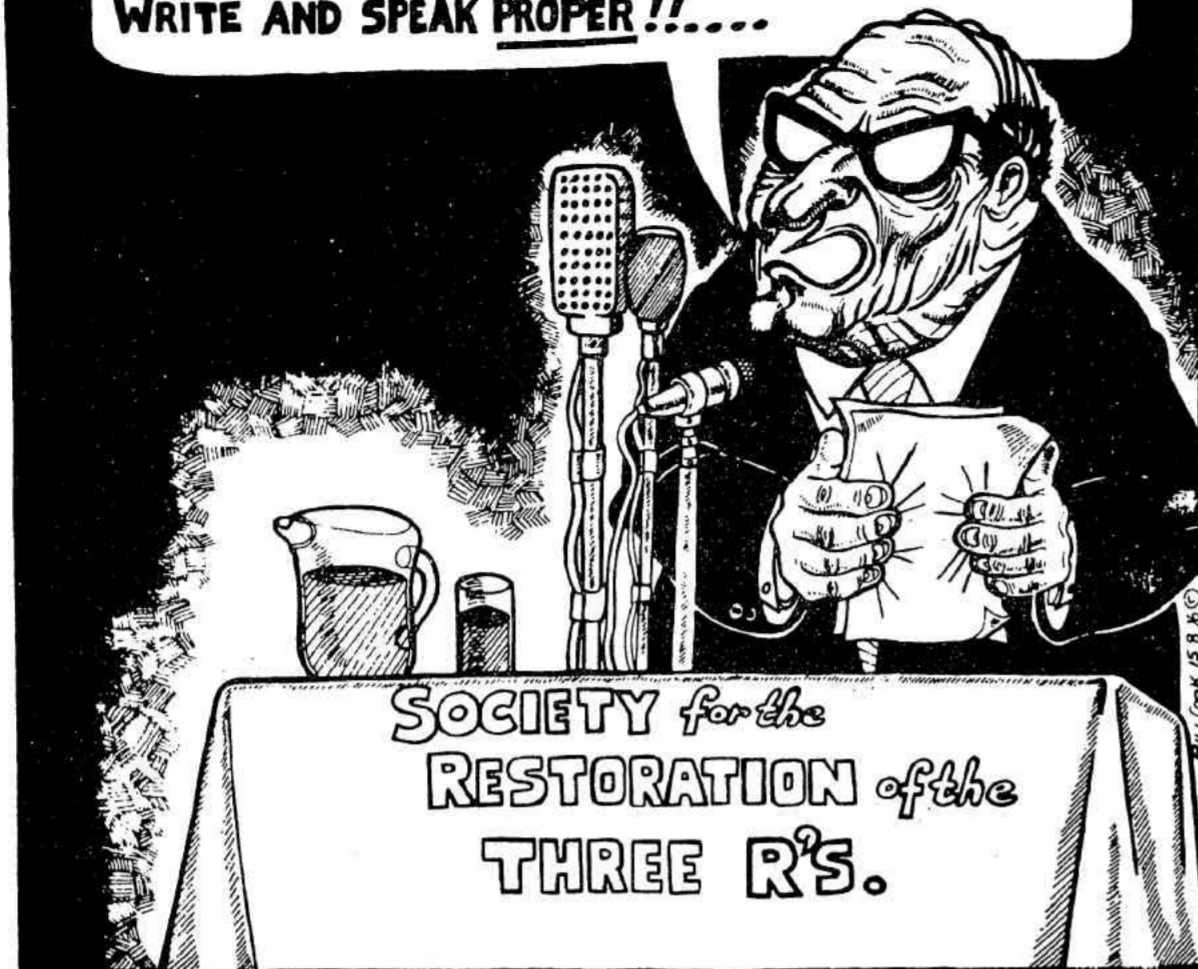
Dr Malleon, already quoted above, has compared exam reactions of students to pre-battle reactions of soldiers, and has suggested that exam panic may be treated with techniques applicable to shell shock.

These observations could be multiplied many times. The picture of misery they suggest ought to be familiar to anybody involved in the schooling process. The impact of exams on the health of students is not uniform: women (as usual in sexist society) suffer from exam anxiety more than men, and overseas students more than locals. A study con-

ducted in Manchester shows that the proportion of women made sick by exams is nearly twice that of men! This is additional to the demonstrated fact that exam performances is adversely affected just before and during menstrual period. Since, as was argued above, exam results are essentially comparative, the outcome is not only that those who are sick underperform, but that those who are not automatically benefit from the ill-fortune of their fellow candidates. This makes exams one of the most unsavoury forms of competition I know.

Exams do not merely cause widespread suffering and distress among those who have to face them. They are a causal factor, directly, in many cases of suicide. Clear evidence shows that suicide rates among male students in England and Wales are higher than among the comparable non-student population. The evidence connecting student suicide with exams is there, but because of paucity

..IN THE OLD DAYS, A LITTLE TRAUMA AND A WELL CULTIVATED NEUROSIS AMONGST STUDENTS NEVER HURT ANYBODY...AT LEAST THEY COULD ALL ADD UP, READ, WRITE AND SPEAK PROPER !!.....



of studies is perhaps not conclusive. Rook analysed the suicide figures in Cambridge in the decade 1948-58, and concluded

and concluded that:

"It is difficult to believe that exams do not have some influence on the Cambridge suicides, for over half of them occurred around the exam period, and four out of five of those were believed to be worrying over their work died in May."

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UNDER THREAT

Along with all the other services and bodies threatened by the impending Government legislation against student unions, the Education Committee also faces attack.

This Committee provides free and essential service to all students should they need to avail themselves of it. Difficulty in disseminating information to students has meant that many less students have availed themselves of this service this year.

This year, the Committee has undertaken a variety of tasks. It has:

(i) Co-ordinated with the Library Committee and succeeded in seeing a grant allocated for extension purposes next year, and succeeding in gaining the support of the Library staff who

undertook a 'shelf-reading' day on July 7 - thus restoring to the shelves a large number of lost and misplaced books.

(ii) Actively promoted a campaign for the liberalization of assessment and the re-examination of course content and objectives. Presently, a series of meetings with students, staff and ORAM (Office for Research in Academic Methods), is being undertaken, in order to present to the Board of the School of General Studies, a submission which will embody the requests made by many students during the year.

These requests relating to assessment and staff/student participation have been discussed with staff and aim to re-embolden the Board decisions of 1974 relating to these things, and further seek to prevent the abrogations of this decision which have been practised by certain members of staff since.

(iii) Followed up individual complaints by students. Complaints have been received from students in Anthropology I, Japanese I, Geography I, English I, various history units, Sociology, Accounting, Psychology and Political Science. Not all follow ups have been 100% successful, but a significant level of compromise has generally been reached.

(iv) The Committee has also supported the introduction of new courses, such as Women Studies A and B and the new three year Computer Science course, now in the Faculty of Science.

The work of the Committee needs continued support and therefore we ask you to consider seriously the question of the Students' Association's survival and autonomy.

Only an autonomous, strong and financial viable compulsory union can afford to provide services such as these.

The Government interests which seek to impose this legislation on us depriving us of our rights, would be only too pleased to see discontinued such vehicles of voicing discontent with the status quo, as the Education Committee.

WOMEN

ABORTION AND MEDIBANK

MEETING: Mon 7th August Union Board Room, 8 pm.
Discussion about abortion and health funds.
EVERYONE WELCOME.

1977 and 1978 have seen the beginning of an anti-abortion backlash throughout the world — not that abortion laws in most countries ever get terribly liberal.

In the United Kingdom last year a private members' bill introduced by Tory M.P. William Benyon sought to get rid of the "social clause" of the 1967 Abortion Act. This clause, which made abortion legal if the woman's environment, or foreseeable environment, made the pregnancy impossible, for the first time gave most working women access to safe, legal abortion on the National Health Service.

In America, the U.S. Congress has stopped Medicaid funding abortions for the poor. Only in 16 States are abortions now funded by State legislatures.

But the most significant overseas change for Australia — both because of its severity and because of its geographical proximity to Australia — is that change which occurred in New Zealand in April this year. New Zealand now has one of the world's tightest anti-abortion laws. Abortion is illegal in almost every situation, including for pregnancies that result from rape. In addition, travel agents who arrange trips to Australia for women in need of abortions may also be up for prison sentences. Since the new laws were passed, 200 women a month have come to Sydney or Melbourne for abortions. Of course, these abortions are not covered by health insurance, so N.Z. women face not only the full cost of the medical procedure (\$180 or so) but also the additional cost of getting to Australia and paying for accommodation while they're here. This means a total cost of around \$550-700.

Compared to this, the situation in much of Australia is relatively good. An estimated 60,000 abortions p.a. are performed here. Abortion is available in N.S.W., Victoria, South Australia and

Western Australia, but it is only explicitly legal in South Australia, where it must be carried out in a hospital. For women in other States, a similar situation applies as for women from New Zealand — they have the additional costs of travel and accommodation to bear on top of the purely medical costs.

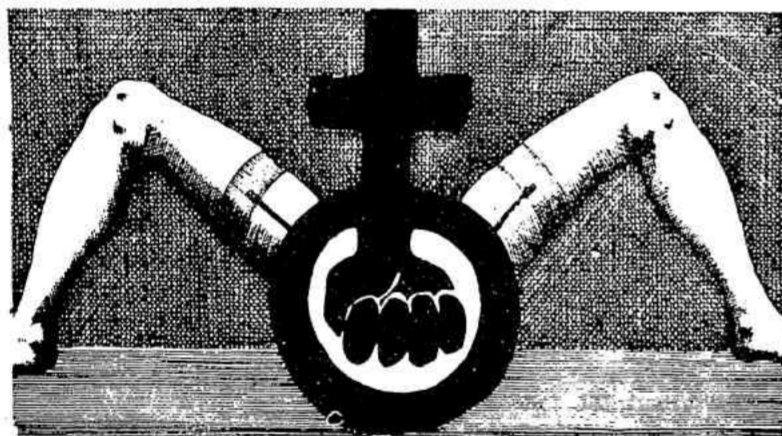
Children by Choice (Brisbane) refers 70-80 women each week to Sydney, and in the past five years, 13,000 Queensland women have travelled to Sydney for abortions. Approximately 400 women p.a. leave Tasmania for abortions in Melbourne. From the A.C.T. alone, 1,000 women are referred to Sydney clinics each year.

While this situation is by no means wonderful, future prospects for the availability of abortion in Australia look grim.

The backlash that has made itself felt overseas has not been absent here. The business of Melbourne abortion clinics has been disrupted by continuous demonstrations by Right-to-Lifers,

Although these actions have made abortions somewhat more difficult to obtain, their effects are minimal compared to the probable effects of the latest changes to Medibank.

First, there are the changes that affect all Medibank benefits. These are the abolition of bulk-billing (except where doctors consider patients especially "needy") and the reduction of benefit payments from 85% of the most common fee to 75%. What this means in terms of abortion and associated medical procedures is that women will have to cover the whole cost, rather than having the clinics paid through bulk-billing Medibank. They will now have to raise the whole cost of an abortion before having one, and then recover 75% of that cost through applying to Medibank themselves. Given the financial situation of some of the clinics now in operation, it is unlikely that the "needs" clause which will allow bulk-billing for only 75% of costs, is a possible solution.



which have included the harassment of women patients. Sydney clinics at one stage found that half of their bookings turned out to be fakes made by anti-abortionists. While Australian Right-to-Life has not yet pulled women off operating tables (as has happened in America), the Potts Point clinic of Population Services International (PSI) was firebombed in April 1978 by people who have not yet been apprehended.

Before the current changes all the major clinics except PreTerm in Sydney were bulk-billing. Even then, bulk-billing covered only the procedure and the anaesthetist. Cash was required for pathology or theatre fees (\$20-\$70). The abolition of bulk-billing means an extra \$100 cash is needed on top of this. One possible result will be an increase in late abortions while women save up the necessary cash.

In addition, the changes announced by the Minister for Health on 8 June this year included a proviso of specific relevance to abortion, enabling health funds to alter their tables of benefits to exclude a number of items. Although the specific items were not spelt out in Parliament, Hunt did say to the Press that the amendment to the National Health Act would "enable health funds to apply for permission to delete certain items for benefit purposes, including gynaecological procedures." He also mentioned "thousands of letters of concern about benefits being paid for abortions, item 6469 of the benefits schedule."

Catholic health funds and Right-to-Life have engaged in intensive lobbying of Hunt to entirely stop payment of benefits for abortions except on narrowly-defined medical grounds. In September 1977 Hunt asked for a report from the Medical Benefit Schedule Revision Committee on whether this could be done. The current scheme is the result.

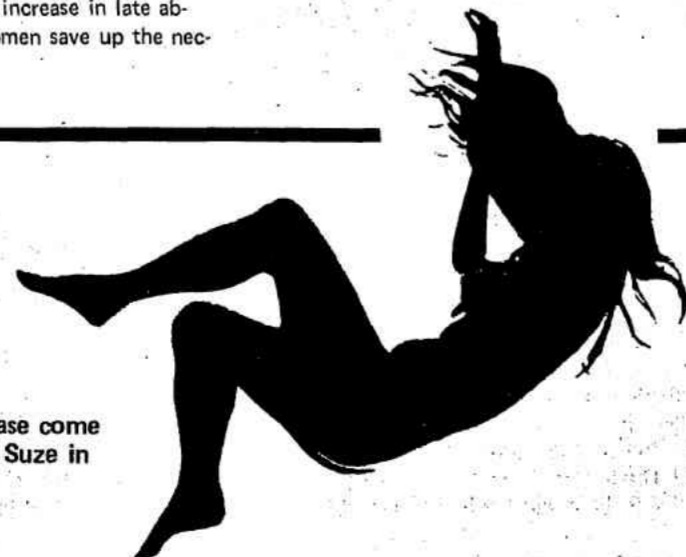
Obviously, it does not satisfy the Right-to-Life people. Medibank is still supposed to pay item 6469; but some private funds are likely to exercise their option to strike it from their list of benefits. The Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society, have announced their intention to do so. (This particular fund already amakes refunds very time-consuming to obtain for those of its members who apply under this item, by querying their accounts, etc.).

Another, often neglected, effect of the change will be the probable closing down of some smaller abortion clinics. With the contraction of numbers able to afford cash-on-the-spot abortions, business for all clinics will fall. While the Population Services International (P.S.I.) Clinics (with a turnover exceeding \$1 million per annum) will be able to weather this, smaller feminist clinics, whose follow-up contraceptive and other services are far more valuable, will be hard pressed to keep going.

In a situation where the general right to abortion is under threat, some have argued that women should stop criticising the assembly-line methods of the P.S.I. Clinics. But if the availability of abortion is contracting, there is all the more reason for demanding that these services be safe and non-exploitative.

While abortions remain scarce, either for financial or legal reasons, companies like P.S.I. will continue to profit from them. The only solution is for abortions to be legally available on demand and free under Medibank.

Diane Fieldes



N.U.T.S. AUDITIONS

for *What Have You Done For Me Lately?* or *Pure Polemic* by Myrna Lamb — a feminist play about abortion.

It is a short one-act play with two speaking parts (one female one male) and two non-speaking parts (one female, one male). The play will probably be put on as lunch time theatre early in third term.

AUDITIONS will be held in the Music Listening Room in the Union on Tuesday, 8 August, 12 noon to 2 pm.

ANYONE interested please come along or contact Meg or Suze in Woroni Office.

WORONI 15

Column Space From The Pseud Pols



HI! Since the last effort of the P.C. branch got a little out of hand, and we were face with legislation which is a serious political threat, we have been keeping both our left and right profiles low. When all the limelight is back, we'll certainly be there but meanwhile we've left the spadework to those who are genuinely concerned. Don't worry: we can promise all members plenty of opportunities for performance in the next few months.

Meanwhile a little demystification is in order. Members have already been told of the various techniques of gaining maximum exposure at the meetings of the Students' Association. However, some are not using these to maximum advantage: and we feel this is because they misunderstand the nature and operation of the meetings.

The real purpose of the meetings is not, as some seem to think, to cope smoothly and efficiently with the business of the association. The association's business goes on in its committees, with its representatives on various bodies and in the office itself: the meetings are there to let off political steam, as a safety valve for expressions of hostility. You may have noticed that all the shouting and abuse takes place at meetings and that otherwise the association is quite friendly (the A.G.M., with no issues or battle lines was the meeting of a jovial club) It is no accident that the huge and trivial Hand-book Incident took place after three months in which there were no meetings for hostility and grievance to emerge. So never worry about the 'real' business of meetings: they are there for you to make your loud noises.

Another point may help you use the opportunities provided by meetings to the full. When we enjoy our politics by actively participating in meetings we also help reinforce the identity of the S.A. itself and all its flux of groups. It is important to remember the etiquette introduced by these groupings, for the audiences are uncomfortable with a maverick. Always locate yourself with members of the persuasion you have chosen: it is easier to gain attention en masse, you can draw encouragement from their support, and you can be comfortably identified by your audience. The only exception to this rule would occur in a situation in which you hoped to provoke a conflict, when it would be quite effective to sit vocally amongst your opposition.

Using the usual techniques, take every opportunity to support your group. Seconding their motions, ridiculing their opposition, shouting their insults, all help reinforce both the identity of the group and your pseudopolitical identity, and is thus beneficial for all concerned. Never, for example, support some sensible motion of your opposition: this is not only against all form but disorients the audience and inhibits the functioning of the meeting as a safety-valve. Consideration of each issue as it stands, in the light of convictions which are continually under scrutiny, is far too inefficient as a pseudopolitical technique, and perhaps for all politics.

WORONI 16

NEW HEBRIDES

The New Hebrides is unique in the world and in the Pacific. It is the world's only condominium. Since 1906, it has been ruled jointly by France and Britain. These two divergent civilizations transferred many of their cultural peculiarities to this 'peaceful' Melanesian environment. Over time, an obvious cultural gap appeared between those people (coming under predominantly British influence) and those coming under French influence. In fact, in the decades following 1906, the separate economic, political and social developments which were carried through by the powers with varying degrees of emphasis has contributed to what can now be seen as the high degree of political polarization within the country.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the island group was profoundly affected by predominantly protestant missionary activity and the labour trade through which pigeon English was acquired and disseminated although this early legacy is attributed to predominantly British influences, the French soon bounded ahead in the economic and political fields.

Francophones, who are represented by the Tan Union, are at present in control of the government. Francophones constitute by far the majority of civil servants — particularly in more recently established departments. Unfortunately, these people's French identity goes deeper than just language alone, or early 'petit Pair' and coffee for breakfast. If they have made it through the rigorous French education system by acquiring the French they cannot be anything but strongly French. Although the syllabus in lycées remains totally irrelevant to the needs of the Pacific Islander, the French education system remains a pleasant alternative to the British one. It is virtually free, unlike the British school system. Even in France, one has to pay for education. The French will get to any financial lengths to educate people to the finer ways of life, they are the epitome of cultural imperialism, unlike the British who are simply misers.

It is accurate to say that the British of late have been negligent with regards to their responsibilities to the island group. However, their earlier legacy has made them in many respects an equal partner to France. Of those New Hebrideans who are educated, 60% speak English. More indirectly as an attribute of British influence — is the fact that anglophones constitute by far the majority of the educated supporters of the majority political party called Vanuaka Pati.

This party polled 59% of the vote in the 1975 Representative Assembly elections. If it had been contested last year's national election there is little doubt that it would not have



polled equally well. Vanuaka's main reason for boycotting the election was to protest at an unfair electoral system and the lack of progress by the powers towards accepting the principle of majority rule, and accepting a referendum to decide on the date for independence.

Now, under the party's leader Father Walter Lini, Vanuaka has come to take a more pragmatic and compromising stance. Although the People's Provisional Government which was established on Nov. 29 1977 (election day) has been surprisingly successful, there has been a corresponding fear that the government of George Kalsakan might be gaining credibility and prestige since the country gained full internal self-government on January 11 1978.

Lini has proposed the suspension of the People's Provisional Government if in return Vanuaka gains reasonable concessions, such as improvements in the electoral system. For this end, the British and the French Governments set up an ad hoc committee which would discuss and hopefully come to some agreement about reforms to the electoral system. How successful this will be, depends on the extent to which all "parties" are willing to compromise. Apparently Vanuaka is willing to compromise on the aspect of voter eligibility. Instead of residents who are not New Hebridean citizens not being allowed to vote, they appear to be willing to give voting rights to those people who have been residents in the New Hebrides for more than six years. It remains to be seen however, whether many of the current members of the Representative Assembly, would risk another election before their terms have expired.

The complexities in the political predicament of the New Hebrideans, are baffling to say the least.

Vanuaka as the majority party is not represented in the Government — not that it wants to be. It is absent from the Government not because it is politically powerless but because

it was politically advantageous in the months following the last election to be "in the wilderness" through their intricate party networks stretching down into rural villages they maintained a politically potent alternative government in many areas of the island group.

Although Vanuaka is no toothless tiger, neither is Tan Union which, under Kalsakan as Chief Minister is responsible for the internal running of the country. Tan Union with all the minor parties combined have less support than Vanuaka. However, Tan Union IS the Government, and being such has the potential to increase its support by being seen to be an effective Government. However, ultimately there is a limit to the extent that these francophone members of the representative Assembly will compromise.

The two colonial powers which have responsibility for the condominium are cultural opposites. The differences between the British style of administration to that of the French is only too obvious to the totally ignorant and unsuspecting traveller.

It has been well known that the British have wanted to dispense with their colonial responsibilities. It has not been due to a crisis of conscience. The New Hebrides has only been low on Britain's list of priorities because it does not represent a lucrative investment such as Hong Kong.

However, Britain has not been able to wash its hands of the New Hebrides as soon as it would have liked. It has been restrained by France who holds the E.E.C. trump cards.

The French are committed to the Pacific ideologically. They do not look in terms of pure economic as the 'poor' British do, but view a cultural mission to perform.

The New Hebridean people remain the pawns. However, thanks to Vanuaka they are not passive victims.

Greg Hutchinson.

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THE TREASURY CANBERRA

UJ

QUEENSLAND THE STATE OF PLAY



When it comes to analysis of the Queensland political situation, two responses are common. The first is to dismiss the peculiarities of 'Deep North Politics' in sterile debates about 'Are Queenslanders Different?'. The other is to apply a small 'l' liberal gloss on events, which characterises Joh-politics as a mere excess. Neither approach confronts the fact that the theorised conventions upon which the Australian political system is said to operate can be ignored with impunity by a regime bent on one-party rule.

Joh Bjelke-Petersen has been able to secure virtual dictatorial rule because our political culture applauds the 'tough' man. The gerrymander is described as an effective means to retain power. The ban on political marches is described as a clever ploy to promote a law-and-order campaign in an election year. The criminal prosecution of a trade union official is described as a popular move to tap anti-union sentiments.

Media analysis of such actions never goes beyond a strategic assessment. If Bjelke-Petersen were to ban elections tomorrow, much of the media would herald the move as the ultimate political manoeuvre. Attacks on civil rights are not viewed as a concerted effort to eradicate all opposition to the government.

The unfortunate reaction of the parliamentary opposition is to appeal to the same ethic that maintains the Premier in power. The A.L.P.'s response to the Iwasaki land purchase in central Queensland is to engender anti-Japanese sentiments rather than argue against foreign ownership of freehold title. The A.L.P. is hesitant to support the Civil Liberties movement, in particular the right to march groups, for fear that such an alignment would be an electoral liability. Archbishops have gone where the A.L.P. fears to tread.

A seven percent swing would put the A.L.P. in office. Reform of the Party's organisation and a temporary parliamentary alliance with the Liberal party to secure a fairer electoral system, would improve the party's chances of gaining power. This unlikely though possible scenario depends on the Liberal Party's becoming aware of two things. The first, that a close coalition to Joh is an electoral liability (as shown in the last election when the Liberals lost city seats because of Joh's increasing totalitarianism). The second is a realisation that the continuation of the present multi-zonal electoral distribution guarantees that the Liberals will remain the junior partner in the coalition, if not fade into oblivion.

The series of political embarrassments which have plagued the govern-

ment in the last year — the march dispute, Iwasaki, the Tarong powerhouse cover-up, the Brych affair, censorship on school courses, the Aurukun fiasco, and Joh's recent attack on Archbishop Arnott — have operated to isolate the government from many influential groups — doctors, teachers, companies disadvantaged by the Tarong decision and churchpersons. The organisational wing of the Liberal Party and a number of Liberal backbenchers have decided that if Joh is going down, he is not going to take them with him.

If Bjelke-Petersen is not the Premier in a year, which is an increasing prospect, his successor as premier would find it difficult to avoid similar political embarrassment and a worsening economic situation.

The Liberal party, installed as senior coalition partner by new electoral boundaries at the next election, could look forward to a new lease of life if its leader is a recognised anti-Joh man.

A Labor party government re-

mains the unknown and unlikely quantity. Present indications don't show the potential to throw up a world-beating Labor administration like those of Ryan or Theodore. Neither is a Dunstan poised in the wings. If, by chance, a Labor government were to gain power without going through the necessary organisational reforms or committing itself to an ideological stand, Queensland might have a government not qualitatively different from the present government. An administration content to lock-in to populist rhetoric, gerrymander the country, politicise the public service and use the police to enforce its policies would be the result.

This chilling prospect should not cause persons of good-will to withdraw their efforts to defeat the present regime. The challenge is to raise the level of political debate from tough man images and develop a political culture which enhances the prospect for socialist reform.

Peter Applegarth.



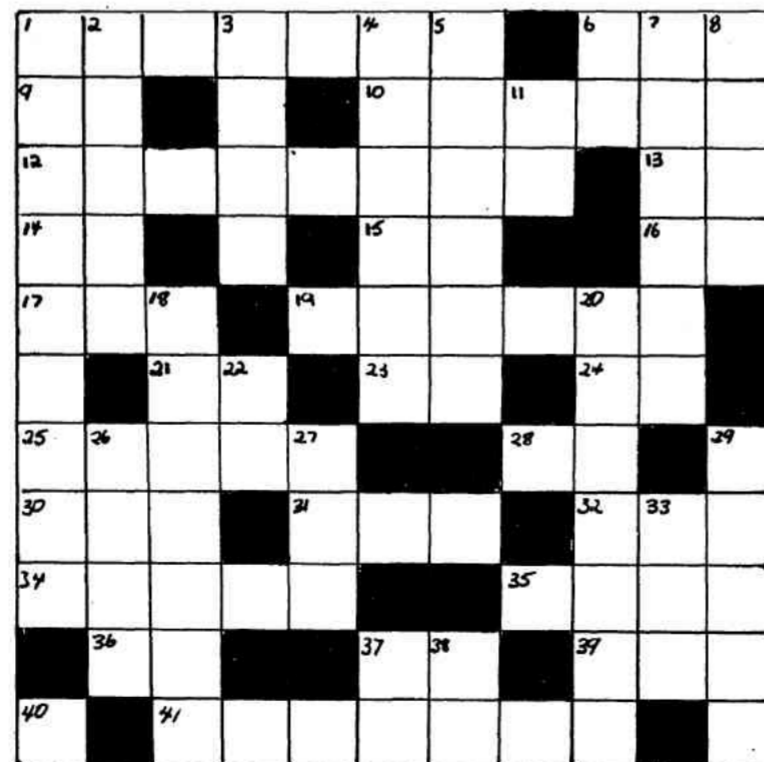
28. French for 'you'
30. Bath
31. Affirmative
32. Move with speed
34. Musical study
35. Period of fasting
36. French for 'and'
37. Unit of width in printing
39. A false statement
40. Sounds like *See*
41. Fervourish for a cause.

DOWN

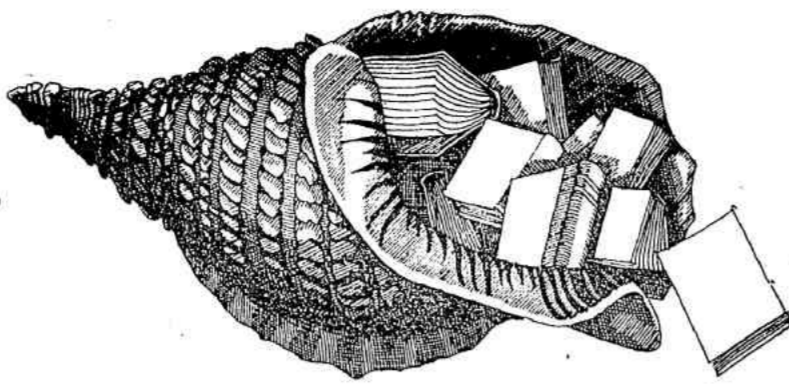
1. Greatly entangled or involved
2. Cuts lawns
3. Strong wind
4. Small mug
5. Science of Morals
6. — What?
7. Favourable regard for someone
8. Welfare
18. Commune farm of Israel
20. Wreath of victory (pl.)
22. I, myself
26. Deaf and dumb
27. A grain
29. Go inside
33. University (abbr.)
37. Same as 16 across.
38. Negative Answer

ACROSS

1. Visualise, make up
6. Use needle and thread
9. Negative answer
10. Serving no practical purpose
12. Similar to dusk
13. A child's 'yes'
14. Regarding (abbr.)
15. Government Investigations (abbr.)
16. — presidente!
17. Bore, tire
19. Curved harvesting knife
21. I am (abbr.)
23. Initials of two compass points
24. Last word of 21 across
25. Goes with Green and red



FUN CITY



The city that Cowper returned to was a planned city, the city of his birth and the place he had left three years earlier shouting and cursing; 'My sterility floats like the beauty of the planned city'.

Cowper was a citizen; more than that, he was a member of the first generation of THE FUNCTIONING DREAM; a curious name for a city, he would have been one of the first to admit, but the title was chosen by the practical visionaries who established this settlement on new soil in outer-space a short decade ago.

The actual city within the capsule was laid around a central triangle. The planners had consulted modern metaphysicians, and between them they had agreed that such a triangle was, 'the strongest form of insurance under stress, as well as the simplest base from which construction can extend'. Advisers Avenue, Judges Way and Actors Parade formed the borders of the triangle and within their bounds the process of administration proceeded, while beyond the bounds the establishment extended. The poetry grew. It filled a sequence of artificially constructed valleys with curving streets, that rolled and banked and directed traffic like pipes do water and cables, electricity. Residences were regular and separated, and the bright faces of neophytes shone in adornment.

True, the city had its critics. One, the fantastic essayist Sy Mirra had recently been quoted as saying:

'To be alone in a city is brief pain enough, but to be isolated in the eye of an idea is to be one who stands with only that for support. It is to be weighed with the burden of standing outside that eye, for in that manner vision is seen to exist rather than simply experienced. They say this city has been built and THE triangle has been arranged. They say, 'after the fact, little remains'; except of course the fact. That is the past that is underfoot. If that is all that is stood upon, then that is death. That is the philosophical basis of defecation; and that is past. If that is the why of the city, BLOW IT UP !!!!!!!!!'

For 22 hours Cowper had travelled by space shuttle. Space had been just as it had been on the earlier trip from dream to Earth. Absorbing, limitless, practically solid; compared to which his childhood, 'natural' environment was extravagantly garish. For 20 minutes he had travelled by turbo-train and had stared out the double glazed windows at folds of dry hills, as orange and red light beams intruded to heighten low mist, skeletal trees and based pasture. Animals in view were vacant and distant, without the capacity to sweat, circulate blood or die. He wondered if they weren't simply graphite enigmas on a canvas that had been scratched at rather than painted. The light beams outside offered warmth; the insulation in the bus guaranteed his inability to feel it.

At the station, his fellow passengers disembarked and hurried away, heads nodding, in rapid taxi hunting packs. He stood, with memories, and a slightly dizzying sense of the future wait. 'The Pilgrim returns', he mumbled disconsolant; 'The pilgrimage is over,' through three

years earlier thought in such terms would never have occurred to him. While a crow picked the insides of a discarded orange skin, he stared at earth people did at dwarfs. 'I'm not that crow' he thought, 'even if he does pick with his beak like I do; I'm not that crow'.

He lifted his bags and began to walk. The pavement intimidated him. He feared conspiracies, as his feet picked their way carefully. A machine vibrated a resonant spinal chill, that seemed to threaten him with its attempts to enter the wavelength of his mind; he checked himself from lashing out with foot and throat, but felt his psyche flow and shriek. He was scared of being surrounded. He knew they had means that they used to get at those they considered dangerous. He had no harm in his mind. The harm existed in his experience, and much of that had been given to him by the same people who erected, to his left, The Guarantee corporation, to his right, 'The Bureau of Information and Registration' and directly ahead, 'The Skill and Portion Development Authority'. His experience could not be denied; it most surely existed, like the past and the soil he stood upon

A Man with a hant sang on a corner. The rhythm was spread and disorganised, but the lyrics reminiscent. He watched and remembered. The singer not the song was on the corner now. The song was in the air. The performance was good; so many street artists seem insularly absorbed in their ethos. This one not so much so. Across the road he saw Nina and trembled more than any machine could make him. He watched her disappear into an arcade, then gave chase, knowing full well he would not catch her among the thousands of mid-day shoppers. Damnation; she had made him identify the present in time. Prior to that moment there was no time, there was only the past. She was part of the affirmation. Sometimes he didn't know which side he really wanted to be on. Sometimes. He turned back to view the roadway and could not see a face that induced faith.

Where do people wait when they are far from the heart of that which they feel; When they are new arrivals only recently reintroduced; when the superstitions, formalities, fears of the past bind; slowly growing loose. Silence occurs for long periods. He stood in bookshops and browsed. He smiled smugly when he read in one of Mirra's books,

'After much travelling we arrived in a city and immediately recognised it as home. We entered it as princes, but lived in it as pariahs. It was a place we had earned in our imagination; it was a place we recognised from some past teachings; it was a place that we found eager to consume our tales of the mind circulating beyond its flimsy fences. Within this city we heightened contradictions and raised antagonisms until one day we found ourselves broken into singing synthesis and peering through dark mystery channels of time distant from

this brief residence. We were merely the poets; the travellers. There was no-one destined to sing the songs of these people'

He identified with the character. He thought the piece must have been written especially for him this very minute; that he must have been meant to find it her and now. This was a little occult game he played with himself from time to time, but four second later he was chuckling self consciously when he read in the personal preface: 'Most of this collection comes from one of my romantically naive periods. The late 80's were great days. We were so discontent, and in such celebration, why I was certain then that we would never be able to align or direct any form of vision. . . . Sometimes the occult game was more honest than he bargained for; if he took it to its inevitable lengths.

He stood in music shops, In cafes and pubs, on street corners, in city squares; smelling all the time smelling, as if a change was coming and it would be discernible in the air.

Amidst his past community he watched the back door calls, the gamble in 2007, then blasted his rocket shoes distant when anything resembling a weapon approached his guarded universe. Like a freaked-out gangster, he grumbled.

'The city has changed a bit', Barry said one wet afternoon.

'Things change', he replied, chin sunk.

Nina sat opposite, but he couldn't say anything to her, no matter how much conversation ran round his mind. She had that imploringly impenetrable look again. He stuttered and mumbled five phrases, then excused himself. Even though he left her in a state of embarrassment he didn't feel totally reduced. When he returned to the table, a band was doing one of its modern cabaret sketches. It was something about Olbeck, the engineer who conceived the capsul plan.

A chorus of three sang slowly, It was many years ago that the vandals drew their knives They stabbed with smiling hatred left Olbeck just alive

They cut very slowly with blades built for slash And sent him hurtling on through, space, space, space, space

Then the refrain -
The metaphysical astronomer measured intention and angle But all his life he slept alone; scared of emotional tangle Pollution made it necessary to find a world beyond Something new was needed or all would soon be gone

The mind of one man focussed on essence sense and thought We all woke up in his capsule, so we know what his work was worth.

And they jeered, hooted and turned their thumbs down while the drummer and synthesiser razzed and thrashed

their instruments into cacaphony. One of the chorus then stepped forward and began singing in a very animated fashion;

Welllllllll,
There are stories of the waters, stories of the sky
Of gold in human bodies and light beams in the eyes
There are colours and rumours that have never been seen
Hypnotic suggestions disguised as YOUR dreams

There's fortunate love for the fortunate brave
And there's songs sung by singers who have never been saved.

The final line finished on an ironic upbeat; the singer smiled unpleasantly, the returned to the group, and they launched into the refrain in a new and different tone. All reference to Olbeck had disappeared, and the lead singer puffed his chest and swaggered, while the others looked at him and sung the shortened refrain;

Yes, he measures intention and angle
And he wins all emotional tangles.

The song had been condensed into a theatrical indulgence, into costumed chic-anery, and Cowper felt cheated. He remembered the journey by turbo train. He remembered the light beams, the scratched lifeless animal, the illusion of warmth. There was much in the capsule that told him he was not totally to blame for his lack of satisfaction. Something more than simple circumstance had penetrated existence, something that needed to be overcome. To call it 'ennui' would be wrong, as would the label, 'disillusion! Evil! would deny its subtlety, and 'las 'lack of respect' would smell pompous. Occult significance died in the face of this knowledge. This idea, that the barbs and hooks that so often catch the mind and attempt to dislodge it from its possibilities are like seres of harpoons that can be doged as long as aim aim is understood.

Three years ago he had left, (had left a planet on the physical limits of a physically realised universe) in order to discover why this plant exists. He couldn't have read in air conditioned libraries, stories about sailors with brine soaked skins. He could have learnt about bulbous eyes and droughts, mountains peaks and elephant burial grounds. He could have read of the motivation that had driven legends such as Olbeck and Einstein.

This thin, this thing that exists, that he had left establishment to locate could be read about till blue eyes eventually closed, but not by him. He had travelled to and around Earth and almost lost, he had returned and almost let go. At present he as sitting with two friends. He was stuttering, he could not get many words across. Today he was sitting. No illusion about his location; he was in The Functioning Dream, and it was his inheritance as sure as his life. It may be a city, but like all man-made things it was an Idea and represents more than most of humanity could ever realise. Some think it's an easy place to get lost in; but it's not.

D. Wright.

A RECOLLECTION OF STINGS PASSED

PART 2

As I rose the following day I was to have no inkling of the danger my life was to fall into. I had decided that night to find out more about Racine. Wishing to avoid a direct confrontation with the mystery man, I consulted the current Taxidermists' Register. Racine was listed on page 309. The brief article mentioned that he specialized in insects, and in particular the wasp. It was also hinted that his private collection of prepared wasps was almost rival to that of the Hermitage in Leningrad. I glanced at the card again, and saw the grim irony of the situation: that a taxidermist specializing in insects should dwell at 37 Rue de la Fourmi—Ant Street! I knew I was onto something. I went down to collect the morning's mail. There was a selection of brochures from disreputable travel companies, a request for money from the owner of the cafe in the Boulevard Christian Barnard, and a small brown package. Without hesitation I opened it. It contained an exquisite mahogany box, covered with green kid. Inside was a large preserved, wasp with a handwritten message attached to one its fragile forelegs. With the aid of a powerful magnifying glass, I read the minute copperplate script:

D'Aubergine

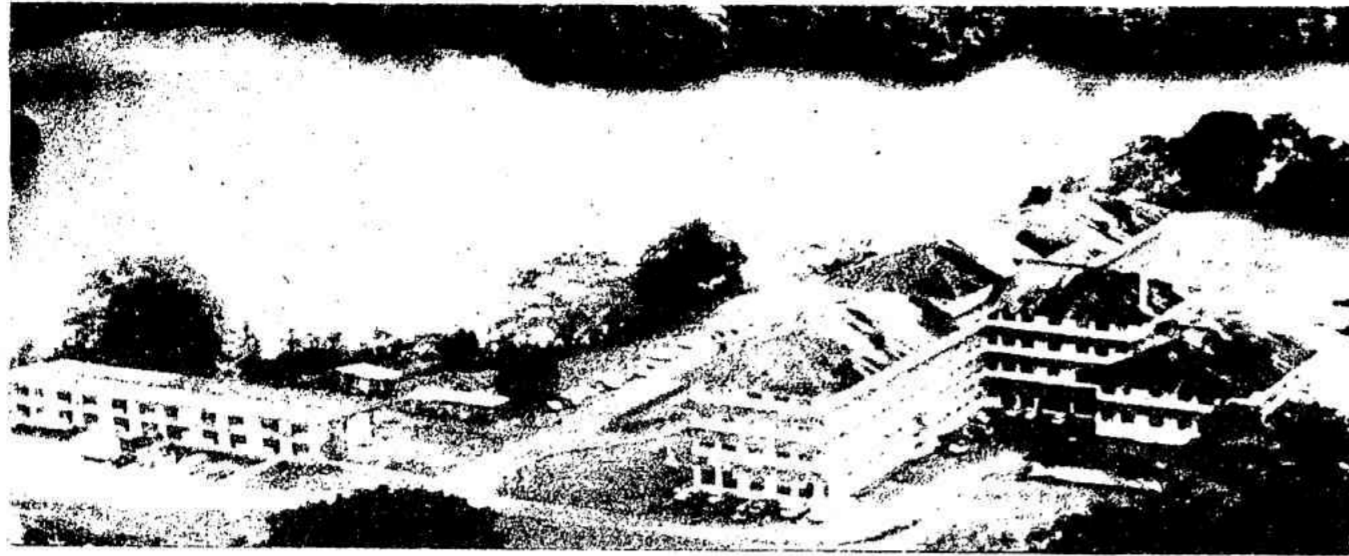
You are in grave peril. You know what happened to your friend Typhus. Any attempt to find out more will lead you to the same end. Come to my house to-night if you want to stay alive. Come alone.

C.R.

P.S. Bring this wasp with you.

This was undoubtedly Racine's hand. No one but a taxidermist specializing in insects could write like that. Then, I remembered Typhus. I had no doubt that he was dead. I rang the Morgue, and found that he had died of poisoning. The pathologist thought curare was the villain here. Most significantly, a wasp sting was found at the base of neck. No other marks were detected.

To meet Racine was obviously my only option. I guessed! Just at that moment the phone rang. My good friend Inspector Lucien Oblique of the gendarmerie was calling in connection with poor Typhus' demise. I told him of the circumstances of his tragic death, and advised him to leave the matter in my hands. I declined his kind offer of assistance, and



prepared to leave the house for a stroll in the Botanical Gardens, where perhaps I could gain better insights. As I left the house, a shabby individual who I correctly assumed to be a beggar awaited me on the doorstep. I brushed him aside with a deft swipe of my cane, and dismissed the matter entirely. This was quite in order, as he played absolutely no part in subsequent events.

* * *

The Rue de la Fourmi was quite hard to find. The oafish Lithuanian who drove the cab took at least an hour and three quarters to locate the general area along, and to avoid further expense, I was forced to find the house on foot. The street was little more than an alleyway, crowded on either side with 18th century warehouses that had been subdivided during the housing shortage of the '20s. Number 37 stood slightly apart from the crumbling masonry of the other buildings, and was somewhat different in style to the rest. It appeared to be Peruvian Gothic, with Tudor embellishments. My sense of taste was quite offended and I almost left in disgust. Nevertheless, I pressed the elaborate inlaid door bell button, and several seconds later, an attractive young woman opened the door. I bowed deeply, inadvertently burying my face in her ample bosom, the size of which I had misjudged in the gloom. I withdrew my nose, noticing a strange smell, which I recognised as formaldehyde. I made a mental note. I presented my card.

"M. D'Aubergine, do come in," she replied. "Father is expecting you."

I was led to a large room lined totally with mounted insects of all descriptions. In a far corner sat a middle-aged man of mysterious bearing, wearing thick, tinted spectacles,

a false Imperial, and smoking an Icelandic Cod cigarette, a variety which I wholeheartedly detest.

"Good evening, M.D'Aubergine, permit me to introduce my daughter Isabelle."

"We have just met," I answered, sending an embarrassed glance in her direction.

This man was barely recognisable as the Racine I had encountered in the cafe, the false beard and moustache notwithstanding. He seemed deeply disturbed, in fact as much so as poor dead Egon Typhus.

"Is your moustache, your own?" he queried. Ignoring this affront I replied that this was the case.

"Ah," he responded with emotion. For several minutes we regarded each other abstractedly, until he motioned me to a chair.

"Isabelle, you may go." The ravishing young creature departed gracefully, and I caught another whiff of formaldehyde. I looked at Racine questioningly.

"My only child. A mere girl of sixteen, who still needs a motherly hand. She assists me in my taxidermy."

"A charming young woman" I stated conversationally, trying to conceal my fascination for this nymph of the mounting block, this goddess of the cotton wool and forceps.

Racine continued, "My somewhat impetuous outburst yesterday concerns us both. My cousin, who disappeared so mysteriously, was to be her step-mother, as my first wife died tragically a year ago." Now, I am at a loss . . . as . . . He trailed off and began to snivel.

"But what of Egon Typhus?" I cried. "Why was your card in his office?"

Racine immediately snapped upright. "Then it is true!" he shrieked. "M. D'Aubergine, there is a plot to discredit me, and bring my good name to the gutter!"

"Calm yourself, sir" I snapped.

"I am sorry. Perhaps more explanation is necessary. It is my belief that your friend Typhus and myself are the unfortunate victims of a vast criminal organization, a gang so vicious that they will tolerate no interference."

"The Invisible Nuns?"

"The same. Typhus became too curious, after his wife, a devout atheist from all accounts also joined this order. The wasp sting was an attempt to cast suspicion on myself."

"And you believe that your cousin and Muriel Typhus were in fact abducted?"

"Indeed I do. But what troubles me more is why. That is why I am telling all this to you D'Aubergine. You, I think, are the only man in Paris who can solve this puzzle."

"Proudly I stood up to shake his hand, slipped on the mat, and banged my shin violently against a large ornamental vase.

Ignoring my clumsiness, Racine held out his hand: "Do you have the wasp?" he asked. "Indeed" I replied, "but why?"

"So I know that you are not an imposter."

He took the wasp and replaced it in an empty space on the wall. I was still puzzled as to my role in this drama, so I proceeded to inform my host.

"Monsieur D'Aubergine, you are in grave danger, as I have told you, for the simple reason that you know too much already. Even before you arrived here, the Invisible Nuns could easily have liquidated you. As they have not, it appears that they are biding their time. Seeing that a direct investigation would be out of the question, I have a plan that I think will work—with luck."

Tim Harris.

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Each year hundred of films are produced — and never seen. Some of them aren't worth seeing. But some are SNAKESKIN FILMS tries to bring the best to Canberra.

Program Two: SQUATTERS & THE SQUATTOCRACY

Tuesday August 8

Program Three, REBELS, ROMANTICS, REACTIONARIES

Tuesday August 15

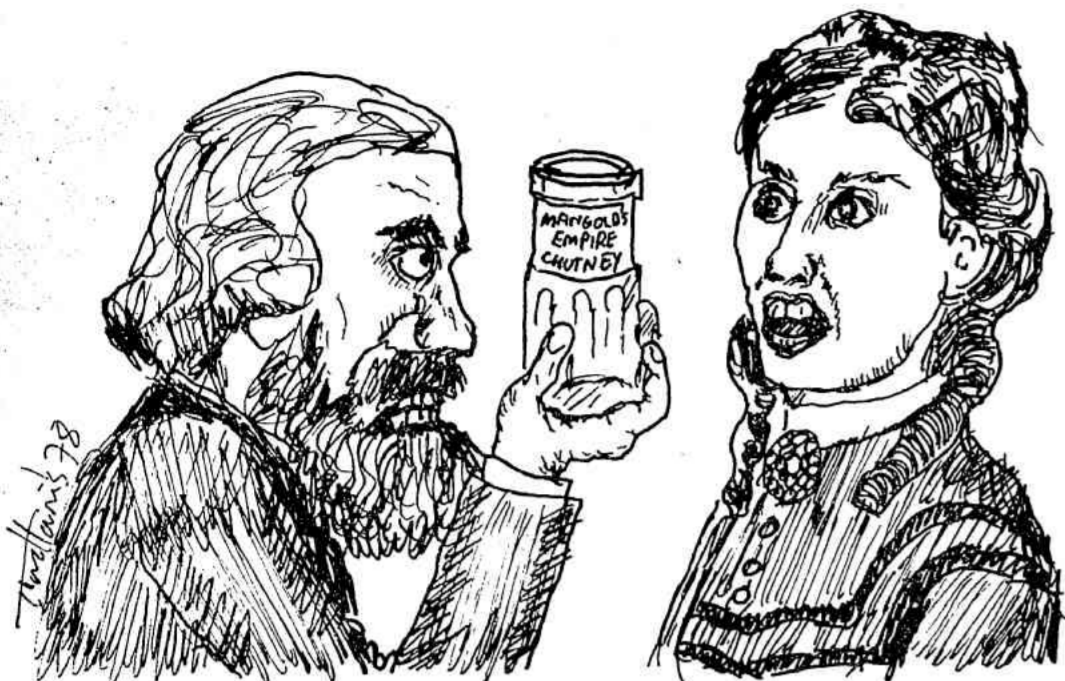
Each Program begins at 8

MAIN AUDITORIUM

Canberra, Tech, Reid.

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DAS KAPITAL



DAS KAPITAL

Part 2 — The Labour Process.

Jenny and Karl Marx are in the kitchen of their London home.

K: Jenny!

J: You've done it again.

J: Done what?

K: It's not as if I don't try to explain my point of view. But it doesn't seem to help.

J: You're not making any sense, Karl.

K: Sometimes I wonder if you ever listen to me. I must look like a fool. Wandering around the house, bumping into chairs, thinking about something else. All the same, you needn't have left it in the jar.

J: Left what, for God's sake?

K: You left it for God's sake?

J: No, not God.

K: Then whose sake was it?

J: How do I know? I don't even know what you're talking about!

K: I'm talking about the knife. You didn't clean it before you put it in the chutney.

J: I don't see the point...

K: Exactly. The point of it is embedded in the chutney jar.

J: The point of it is that the point of it is NOT embedded in the chutney.

K: What?

J: There is no chutney to stick a knife into.

(Vietnamese peasants look up at sky, singing "I Like Aeroplane Jelly")

K: That is irrelevant. What is relevant is that a piece of our cutlery has been mistreated. If there had been chutney...

J: But there was no chutney...

K: But if there had been...

J: Look, Karl, you can't talk about injustices which don't exist. Anything may happen. How do you know that the chutney would feel mistreated if it got stabbed by a dirty knife. The chutney may have liked it.

K: Bullscheisen.

J: The chutney may have felt liberated!

K: If the chutney had felt liberated, that would only mean it had false consciousness.

J: Falseconsciousness?

K: That's right. It didn't know what it was doing.

J: In other words, the chutney is stupid.

K: It's pickled.

(Picks up the manuscript of his last rejected masterpiece)

J: It's just like you, isn't it? As soon as you're trapped, as soon as you're cornered, you think up a new term. False consciousness indeed! Just because everybody doesn't think like you, it doesn't mean they're stupid. You'd rationalise your way out of a wet paper bag.

K: At least I wouldn't stick a dirty knife in it.

J: Now look here, Mr Critique of the Gotha Programme. I am sick of you abusing me for the flimsiest of reasons. Just remember that without me, you'd be nothing.

K: Really?

J: You were a lazy drunk when my father and I first met you at Bonn University. If we hadn't got you going, you'd still be spewing into some provincial street every Friday night.

K: As it is, we're starving to death in a London garret EVERY night!

J: At least you have a purpose now.

K: I had a purpose then. I wanted to obliterate myself when I was 20 years old.

WORONI 20

J: And what's your purpose now?

K: I don't know. Obliterate everyone else, I guess. (Film in background of the Hindenberg crashing).

J: I really don't remember why I married.

K: You loved me.

J: Me! Love you! Not me. Not one your egotistical bourgeoisie.

K: It is possible to be bourgeois without being egotistical.

J: I suppose you're egotistical without being bourgeois?

K: No.

J: You're bourgeois as well?

K: Being an intellectual, I can transcend class barriers.

J: That's right. Keep rationalizing. Maybe someday someone might believe you.

K: I can't wait for that to happen. I must keep working.

J: I wish you'd START working

K: What?

J: Why don't you go out and get a job?

K: I've had jobs before.

J: Of course you have. But the only reason you took them was because you felt you ought to. There you were, writing about workers' conditions, and you'd never had a job. So you got a job as porter at Euston Station, stayed two days, then walked off. You didn't even to and collect your pay!

K: I got a tip from a grateful passenger.

J: You got the tip because someone asked you the way to the Brighton train, and you proceeded to harangue him for the best part of an hour on the inherent contradictions of capitalism. He only paid you to shut you up.

K: At least I got the money.

J: It's not enough. You need a steady job. The rent's due next week. If it's not paid, they'll throw us out.

K: You're lying.

J: I'm not. We haven't got anything to pay with. Not even chutney.

K: (distant) Hegel liked chutney.

J: Have some sense, Karl.

K: I have got sense. If we can't pay the rent, we can't pay the rent. That's the class struggle for you, baby. What about that cheque from the New York Daily Tribune?

J: They sent a letter saying you didn't send them the article they wanted. You sent them our bill from the Water Board. The editors thought it was interesting, but not suitable for mass circulation.

K: I never did like Americans.

J: We also got a letter from the Water Board, returning your manuscript on French agrarian socialism.

K: I need something to eat.

(Runs around kitchen, drooling Bavarian Shibusleths)

J: Stop acting like a child. There's one fairy cake left in the cupboard.

K: Oh good. Feuerbach liked fairy cakes.

NEXT ISSUE: The Means of Production.



Radical Thinkerz Antonio Gramsci

Antonio Gramsci, a leader of the Italian Communist Party in the 1920's has gained quite a reputation over recent years. The reputation has come from what he wrote while imprisoned under Mussolini. He wrote a series of Notebooks which put forward a particularly cultural view of Marxism. James Joll's biography of Gramsci in the Fontana Modern Masters series serves as a brief introduction to that view of Marxism. As Joll points out, Gramsci's popularity coincides with the movement of humanism and so-called 'soft' cultural considerations into Marxist theory over the last decade. Joll's attempt to set out Gramsci's ideas in a logical manner is rather feeble, and appears to have been done in something of a hurry.

Large hunks are left out of Gramsci's thought. A notable omission is the difference interpreters have found in Gramsci between domination by power and domination by hegemony (that is, control of moral, political and cultural values). The difference is significant because it goes to the core of a central concern of Gramsci: how changes come about through a combination of economic and cultural influences. By pointing out in the 1920s that domination by hegemony is as important as domination by power, Gramsci was one of the first to break from those Marxists who believed the cultural superstructure to be merely a product of the economic structure.

Gramsci's ideas have to be seen in the context of his personal life and of his political environment. This is done by Joll briefly but well. No sooner did Gramsci become leader of the Italian Communist Party in 1924 than he had to come to grips with fascism. And with the favourable mental attitude many Italians took towards it. Gramsci was himself imprisoned by Mussolini in 1926, and spent 11 years locked up before he died of a cerebral haemorrhage in 1937. It was in those 11 years that Gramsci wrote the Prison Notebooks.

In the Notebooks, Gramsci aimed at finding out why people accept the leaders they do, why Italians such as Gramsci's own brother could turn fascist. Gramsci realized he needed a science of politics to discover this — he needed a true 'political science'. He attempted to approach such a science by combining the ideas of his three intellectual masters — Karl Marx, the Italian philosopher Benedetto Croce, and Machiavelli. Gramsci thought Machiavelli was often mistaken as a true political scientist, because he had "distinguished politics from ethics", that is, Machiavelli has cleared political study of a false ethical content. In reply to Machiavelli, Gramsci started to write a 'Modern Prince', outlining a true political science in modern terms. As he said in the Prison Notebooks, "Once more there is the necessity to be 'anti-Machiavellian', to develop a theory and technique of politics which might be useful to both sides of the struggle", however strong the belief that they will be more useful to one particular side.

To this end, Gramsci in the 'Modern Prince' looked at both politics and science. As far as I can see, Gramsci saw 'science' as the study of what transforms and is transformed. On this, Gramsci refuses to see sociology as a science, as it only studies social conditions. Sociology could only be a science if it studies what transforms social conditions as well, that is, the "will and initiative of men". A political science, in Gramsci's mind, must include human dreams and aspirations, as well as the institutions which those dreams and aspirations create.

REVIEW

HELPING YOU TO HELP YOURSELF

Pink Pages — A Directory of Women's Rights in Australia by Barbara Bishop and Kerry Petersen. Penguin handbooks \$4.50.

This book fills a gap which has long been present in contemporary books for women. In the last few years, there have been plenty of books published, expounding various analyses of the position of women in society and how they got there. Unfortunately, these books, for all their intellectual worth, have little or no practical application for the vast majority of women involved in the day to day problems of living. 'Pink Pages' is unique in that it provides a practical everyday guide for women living in contemporary Australian society. Why have a directory of rights specifically for women? Women have always been discriminated against in society, and this is no less true nowadays than it was in the past. Take the law for instance. Women are unequal before the law not only because laws are made and administered almost entirely by men, with little idea of the needs of women, but also because the law is extremely and unnecessarily expensive. Women

suffer the most heavily here, because they are nearly always less well off than men. In the coming budget, there will almost certainly be further cuts in social welfare services, leaving far more women than men disadvantaged. Obviously a woman who knows her rights is automatically in a better position than one who does not. This then is the purpose of this book; to inform women of their rights and the options and opportunities available to them.

What for instance are your rights if you are married with children, and your husband deserts, leaving you with a pile of unpaid bills and no money coming in at all? What should you do if your landlord refuses to return your bond money? When are you eligible for the Supporting Mothers Benefit? Where do you go if you want an abortion? What should you do if you are injured at work and want to claim compensation? This book contains the answers to all these questions in clear straightforward language, and suggests ways in which to avoid these kinds of situations. It also explains how to organize, pointing out that while a woman alone can do little, women together can achieve

a great deal.

One of the best things about this book is its system of cross referencing



It is possible to open this book anywhere and find out almost immediately what you want to know. In addition to the usual chapter by chapter layout, information is also gathered under sections which may be of particular interest to the married woman, the migrant woman, the woman under eighteen etc.

Naturally some of the information given in this book will date quickly, some of it is already out of date. Where

this is likely to happen the authors have given ways and means of finding out the most up to date reliable information. The two appendixes at the back of the book give the phone numbers and addresses of all the different organizations that will give you help and advice in emergency situations. Certain areas of a woman's life such as work, children, and sex to name but a few, are unlikely to change in the near future so that this book can be assured of a long and useful life.

All too often books such as this one only succeed in preaching to the converted. In one sense this book is an exception. Due to a variety of factors, economic and social, more and more women from all walks of life are being forced to make decisions and take action in areas that would have been previously 'out of bounds' for them. In that sense this book is a valuable asset to all women.

It is however the migrant woman who can't speak English, or the deserted mother with four children who needs this book most of all, and she is the one who hasn't the time to browse in Daltons, and who can't afford the \$4.50 that this book costs.

Virginia Murray

A DOCTOR'S GUIDE



This week in *A Doctor's Guide*, I want to look at one of the more prevalent social diseases commonly found among tertiary students. Yes, I am of course, referring to aphasia. This highly debilitating disease has been seen to be on the increase in the last few years with the subsequent rising numbers of university drop-outs and, of course, unemployed. I have been researching this crippling illness for almost twenty years and have not been able to publish my findings anywhere.

But, before I go into the iniquities of nepotism, another wasting disease, I would like to present the facts as I see 'em, know it. Aphasia affects the sufferer in three stages. The first is, of

course, loss of notes. How I have cried out to students everywhere; don't take notes, memorize! But will they listen, No! And so they fall down the slippery road to damnation. Loss of notes brings on the second phase of the illness which is, of course, failure of exams. Of course, this will seem obvious to the reader, if one loses one's knowledge in the form of notes then one can hardly be expected to regurgitate that knowledge on paper for the perusal of the examiner. The failure of the exam will, of course, bring on the third and final stage of the illness, unemployment.

But, you cry, what can be done to save these poor wretches from a peniless future? My long years of research has given me the answer. After examining thousands of noteless stricken students I have discovered the true cause of this sickening disease. The vicious vermin responsible is none other than, the common slater! Unbeknownst to mankind, these highly dangerous animals have gradually undermined the whole of society, working along or in small groups, they creep into houses late at night and eat all the notes taken that day! In the process they absorb that knowledge and it is transported back to vast underground caves, where huge slaters with massive brains sift through the data and plot the downfall of mankind. I know! I have seen them at work!

So, students don't be struck down by the most dreaded disease ever to attack the world! Go home, and memorise your notes, before it's too late!

by Dr M. Handbilt M.D.



Anatomically Possible Politician.

WORONI 21

CONAGHAN'S CANBERRA

... what to eat
... and what to avoid

THE VIETNAM RESTAURANT

At last, a consistently good cheap restaurant, and it's within walking distance of campus.

The Vietnam Restaurant is situated at the O'Connor Shopping Centre, it's small, unpretentious and cheap. There is another one at the Yarralumla shopping centre that I've been told is run by the same family and is equally as good.

The O'Connor restaurant is about as big as a double phone booth and the proprietor manages to cram 30 people in there. Interior is stark, but comfortable. The menu recently looked like a road map when several dishes were slashed with red felt pen, which was disappointing because most of these were the best ones.

They were finally reintroduced, but there is a special section that requires pre-ordering, which I haven't as yet tasted since all of our dinners are spontaneously decided upon when we feel too lazy to put two chops on the grill. This household goes out to eat at the slightest mention of food, kiff, eat or hungry.

The soups are good (they are also unpronounceable) the 80cents vermicelli being potentially the best, the \$1.80 seafood being the most disappointing.

One item that one must taste is the Spring Rolls: Superb. Tiny cylinders of fine pastry cooked crispy brown and served with shredded carrot and vinegar sauce. At four for \$1.00, they are excell-

ent value, and far superior to the shoddy machine creations usually served up in Chinese establishments.

Since my Vietnamese pronunciation is abominable, I shan't even attempt to pronounce any of the dishes, I'll just give the descriptions and you can spend the rest of your time trying to work out which is which.

The chicken and vinegar dish that is served cold is delicious and refreshing. If you have a sweet tooth, avoid this particular dish as it is quite sour. The "French Influenced" chicken is excellent, beautifully fried fowl served with a creamy nut sauce. The skewered beef entree is good value at \$1.80. It is quite possible to eat at this restaurant for \$3 - \$4 per head. Booking is essential, unlicensed, and there is a grog shop up the street.

By the way - has anyone yet eaten in the table-service area of the Bistro? BORING.

For \$4.50 a head, we were given the soup of the day (available at the counter) Roast Beef with the refectory's world famous you-have-to-taste-it-to-imagine-that-it-ever existed gravy, and their superb synthetic pavlova. The bread that was placed on the table was a sliced up bread roll. We worked out that the same lunch "outside" would be \$3.50, so if you're prepared to put up with refec. food and pay an extra dollar, eat there. Oh, the decor cannot go without mention - purple, orange, green, brown, red cream. Not to be missed, almost as good as their gravy.

BUSH WEEK

- if you think University life is a farce you'll think this is an epic -

Bush Week is the second last week of second term (14th-21st August). More importantly it's the week when students say "Bugger the University" and have a bit of fun. Friday is an academic holiday. Obviously most of the main organized events take place then, but the mood prevails spontaneously throughout the rest of the week. In the days when people had hair to let down they let it down; you can realise your potential as a congenital idiot during Bush Week, you may never look back!

This year we re-introduce the PROCESSION through the city streets always a favourite and crowd pleaser - it's been absent for a couple of years. We provide the trucks (unless you can help out) anyone can build a float representing anything. We'll cover cost up to \$20 for materials. The procession takes place on Saturday August 19. The best float wins a suitable prize of alcoholic goods. No idea is too silly.

The other biggie is the SCAVENGER HUNT, (takes place Friday morning) where teams of budding kleptomaniacs amass an array of specified and ludicrous objects (or people). A similar alcoholic prize goes to the team with the best collection. Again anyone can enter (teams of up to six); all teams must be registered with the Bush Week Committee and must have sold 200 copies of the BUSH WEEK RAG by 1.00 Friday.

Bush Week is most famous for the BUSH WEEK STUNTS - planned and executed by all and sundry. Like flying toilet paper from the Black Mountain Tower, or filling Bruce Hall fountain with gellatine. All quite harmless and inoffensive and worth a good laugh. A team of foresters one year stuck signs on virtually every tree on campus reading "I made this (signed) God". They won the prize for best stunt that year! Yep more of that universal reward for the

best stunt. Again, the Bush Week Committee have to know in advance what stunts are planned for them to be eligible.

Apart from those do-it-yourself activities, we are organizing (in cooperation with the Real Ale Society) a BEERFEST, with a wide variety of Australian and international beers. We are also planning (with the Wine Appreciation Club) to buy bulk quantities of high quality wine to give people the opportunity to bottle their own - or drink it there and then if they prefer.

Bush Week is largely designed to raise money for charity, last year the Student Association was able to give Koomarr \$2,000 from Bush Week proceeds.

If you have any suggestions of how to raise, lure or bully money out of people, including the unsuspecting public, let us know.

The Bush Week Committee can be found infighting at the Student Association Office (near the Union Bar). Otherwise there are reps at each Hall or College. If you have any ideas for anything you want to do, if you might be interested in a float for the procession or you want to pull a stunt, don't hesitate to come and rave with us - we want this week to be a bloody good success.

Details on all coming events and a full programme of activities will be produced later.

If your taste wavers towards the gross, the annual Iron man (person?) Race should satisfy you. See the first specimens of the species endure Olympian Athletic action while downing inhuman quantities of alcohol and performing stomach curdling feats. Better viewing than "The Exorcist". (If you want further information or wish to test your endurance skills in the race see John Spahr C/- Sports Union).

TM

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Wednesdays at 8pm Sundays at 2 pm.

Special Bush Week Talk

Monday 14th August at 7.30 pm.

UNION BOARD ROOM

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Campus Meditators take note: Due to the South Australian ideal society campaign, Canberra is down to a staff of two full-time teachers. Consequently, campus checking on Fridays will be only available by appointment.

Gay?

INTERESTED IN:

- Opposing the Mary Whitehouse tour?
- Discussing the politics of oppression?
- Organising in defence of Gay rights?

Then there is a group of people like you which meets next Thursday 11 August 8pm in LR4 Childers St Hall. (Follow the signs from the Childers St entrance.) or write to: P.O.Box 1165 Canberra city

A.C.T. GAY SOLIDARITY

2XX needs your support as a volunteer worker. We have opportunities for participation in almost every aspect of our operation - from cleaning to journalism to announcing - we can use you. A new Announcer Training Course (which is free) starts soon, so contact Jennifer Bowe on 4512 (internal or 49 4512 external), or drop around to the station some time during office hours.

2XX. We're located in the Kingsley Street Hall, just near Toad Hall.

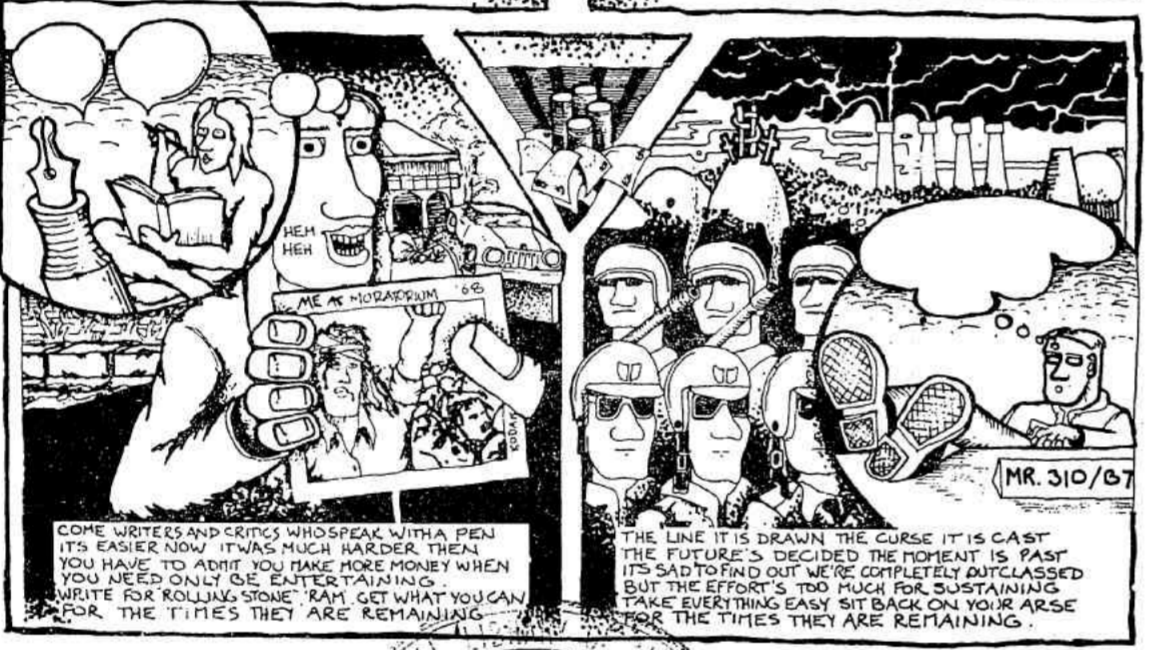
2XX urgently needs typists. If you would like to work for no pay under appalling conditions contact the Programme Co-ordinator at 2XX, Jennifer Bowen, on 49 4512 or come around to the station in the Kingsley Street Hall during office hours.

Net.
378.947
WOR

COMIX

THE TIMES THEY ARE REMAINING

A LITANY OF APATHY TO THE TUNE OF 'THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'' BY R. (DOBBY) ZIN



24 NOV 1978

